

Monday June 8 1998

Albania D 0.50	Greece D 0.50	Ghana G 1.00
Andorra F 1.00	Hungary F 2.00	Poland P 0.50
Austria A 0.50	Ireland I 1.00	Portugal P 0.50
Belgium B 0.50	Italy I 1.00	Qatar Q 1.00
Belarus B 0.50	Japan J 1.00	Russia R 0.50
Canada C 0.50	Korea K 1.00	Saudi Arabia S 1.00
Czechia C 0.50	Kuwait K 1.00	Slovakia S 0.50
Cyprus C 0.50	Latvia L 0.50	Slovenia S 0.50
Denmark D 0.50	Lithuania L 0.50	Spain S 0.50
Egypt E 0.50	Malta M 0.50	Sweden S 0.50
Finland F 0.50	Moldova M 0.50	Switzerland S 0.50
France F 0.50	Montenegro M 0.50	Turkey T 0.50
Germany G 0.50	Norway N 0.50	Ukraine U 0.50
		USA U 0.50

# The Guardian

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## Sport

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**Victory dashes: Stewart orders England gamble, Schumacher takes Canadian GP**

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**JONATHAN STEELE is the first journalist in western Kosovo, where a merciless Serb offensive is under way**

## Beyond the view of TV cameras, a killer stalks



Emotions run high as a family is reunited in Albania after a four-day journey on foot across the mountains from Kosovo

## Blair: We're ready to use force

Lucy Ward Political Correspondent

**T**ONY Blair yesterday sought support from Boris Yeltsin and Bill Clinton for an international effort to calm escalating violence in Kosovo, after confirming British troops are on standby.

The Prime Minister, who has warned the Cabinet that Britain is prepared to use force to stem "butchery" against ethnic Albanian civilians, secured agreement from Mr Yeltsin to use his influence with the Yugoslav President, Slobodan Milosevic, to try to halt the violence.

In a second half-hour telephone conversation, Mr Blair and Mr Clinton agreed on the need to work together, through the United Nations and other forums, to send a clear message to Mr Milosevic that the Yugoslav forces' actions were unacceptable.

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday made clear the European Union is ready to intervene to prevent ethnic cleansing in Kosovo with a warning that the Yugoslav president had "crossed the threshold" by using military force against civilians.

The toughest statement on the conflict yet from Mr Cook — who will today chair a meeting of the EU's general affairs council — was a warning at which the crisis will top the agenda — follows Mr Blair's warning at Thursday's cabinet meeting that intelligence reports indicated "a level of butchery that risks escalating to another Bosnia."

The only question that matters is whether you are prepared to use force, and we have to be. It's better to decide when and how to intervene than be dragged in."

Mr Cook told a conference at the London School of Economics: "The use of... the army against civilian centres of population is unacceptable within the modern Europe."

**A**SERIAL killer is on the loose in the western Kosovo region of Yugoslavia. He strikes daily in village after village, taking a handful of victims at random, spreading panic among ordinary farming families and turning thousands of ethnic Albanians into refugees.

Those who live nearest the border with Albania have struggled up mountain paths to escape to safety. But many more are moving desperately within the killing zone, swaying on horse-drawn carts, crammed into tractor trailers, or walking in sweltering heat. They pass with vacant, wide-eyed stares.

For every one who gets to Albania, another three or four remain homeless in Kosovo, unseen by the foreign media because of a deliberate information blockade by the Serb authorities. In the village of Propagani I found 300 people huddled in a barn and overflowing house.

The hamlet of Krusheve, normally home to 900 people, now has a population of 7,000. Dubrovik, a village of 1,200, finds itself feeding an extra 2,000. Kosovo's second city, Peje (Pec in Serbian), has received at least 20,000 new people in two weeks.

The killer's methods fit a pattern.

"It started at about 8am. We suddenly heard shooting from a small hill nearby, not just bullets but terrible big guns," said Hava Kasumaj, a woman in her 40s from the village of Llogani.

"I heard the cows trying to get back to the compound and I ran out to open the doors to let them in. Then I felt something hit my shoulder and when I turned round another bullet grazed my back. My husband went into the woods with another man. They were both shot."

She stumbled back to the house and slept for the next three nights under the stars. "I kept hoping my husband was only wounded and would come home, but he didn't."



she said. On the fourth night her brother-in-law arrived and took her to a safer village.

As we talked on Saturday morning, two pillars of smoke rose into the sky about two miles away. "Prilep is burning," said Haxhi, a primary school teacher, with the flat voice of a man who could not quite believe the reality of what we could all see. He had left Prilep the previous night.

The village had been bombarded with mortars and ground-to-ground Katyusha rockets for four days, he said. His wife and children hid in the cellar. He, his brother and their male neighbours were fighters in Prilep's defence team. They tried to guard the village, going home to check on their families when they could.

On Friday the shelling became more intense, accompanied by fire from aircraft. "I went back to the house. My family had gone. I have to assume they are refugees somewhere. We also ran. I saw people falling. Some must be dead. I have no idea how many."

The epicentre of the two-week killing spree is Decan, a town which with its neighbouring villages used to be home to 60,000 people, including some 570 Serbs. It sits along the main north-south road from Peje to Djakovica, which runs parallel to the Albanian and Montenegrin borders.

Four weeks ago, when the Serb police still allowed foreign journalists through their checkpoints, Decan was already a hive of military activity. I saw convoys of lorries carrying special forces in black masks or with blacked faces travelling up and down the road from a base outside Peje. New sandbags were being installed at the checkpoints. Armoured personnel carriers mounted with anti-aircraft guns were standing at the ready.

In the foothills of the mountain range over which a minority of refugees have fled to Albania, a new camp was under construction. Now it is in unrelenting action. From a distance of two miles, Albanian fighters in the village of Upper Strelic offered their binoculars so I could watch the new Serb gun positions commanding the plain below. They enjoy a perfect killing ground.

While the Serbian aim is ethnic cleansing provoked by wanton murder, it is not succeeding fully, at least not yet.

"People here are unique in one thing. They won't leave," said a local Albanian commander who served with the Bosnian VI Corps in the defence of Sarajevo. "There is big solidarity here. People go to another village, and then come back. Most of those who have gone to Albania are women and children."

Signs of developing resistance can be seen everywhere. Groups of farmers are digging trenches and primitive underground bunkers at crossroads. Machine-guns are being erected behind piles of stones. Openings for marksmen are being made in concrete walls.

They know the Serbs want to come into the villages after they have been "softened up" by artillery fire and the people have fled. They know the Serbs want to loot the houses and set the buildings on fire. Then it will be hard for people ever to return. Eye-turn to page 2, column 1

## Police join French strikers as Britain refuels

Paul Webster in Paris

**A** PROTEST by French police is set to weaken security at the football World Cup, which begins this week against a background of air and rail chaos.

A work-to-rule by Paris detectives means that visiting fans will be at risk from criminals when an expected 1 million people gather in the capital for a giant parade on the eve of the opening Brazil v Scotland match.

Appeals by the prime minister, Lionel Jospin, to Air France pilots to give up their industrial action failed at the weekend, making it certain that disruption to flights will coincide with a rail strike on Wednesday. But the pilots told management yesterday that they would be prepared to fly aircraft to pick up soccer fans who have been stranded abroad.

However, transport problems could be far less serious for foreign fans than the absence of plain-clothes officers.

Paris police officials confirmed yesterday that a three-month protest by the Police Judiciaire, the equivalent of the CID, had already undermined security in the capital in the run-up to the World Cup and had caused the scaling down of an operation to arrest suspected Algerian terrorists to prevent bomb attacks during the competition.

Because detectives at the Quai des Orfèvres, France's Scotland Yard, are refusing to work overtime in a dispute over bonuses, the flying squad and the drugs and prostitution units have not made a significant arrest for several weeks. The number of suspects taken into custody has dropped by about two-thirds.

Detectives confirmed that criminals, including violent gangs, felt safe to operate openly at certain times of the day because the crime squad could not keep them under surveillance. This was particularly noticeable for drug dealers whose presence has become increasingly visible in the city centre.

But one of the most immediate dangers for hundreds of thousands of foreigners in the temporary dissolution of a specialist anti-pickpocket squad and the abandoning of plans for a close watch on gangs of petty thieves expected to mingle with the crowd during tomorrow's parade on the Champs Elysees and the opening match at the Stade de France on Wednesday.

"The protest is also making it difficult to deploy the elite Raid group of police sharpshooters who take a leading role in anti-terrorist work."

"Choices will have to be made between protecting visitors and high-level surveillance of criminal activity," said one senior policeman.

"The overtime ban means that there are just not enough men to go round and there has been a drop in efficiency."

Detectives earn up to £1,500 a month, but are often expected to work round the clock and are forbidden to take time off in compensation.

"Police Judiciaire officials have to work in a sort of feudal system," said Olivier Poli, secretary-general of the detectives' union, after scores of plain-clothes detectives on bicycles blocked rush-hour traffic as part of their protest. "If we're paid like junior civil servants then we'll work like them — eight hours maximum on duty."

**Bootleg beer will slake thirst of millions watching TV**

Stuart Miller and Jamie Wilson

**T**HEY will come from as far afield as Manchester, Dundee and Truro, crossing the Channel in preparation for the four weeks over which football fans have been drooling for months.

Thousands of their fellow travellers continue on through France this week to follow England and Scotland, but this group will turn their laden vans around and head home to collect a tidy profit.

Bootleggers have become the most enterprising symbol of the alcohol boom which is set to fuel British appreciation of the most hyped World Cup to date. Figures published today by the Brewers and Licensed Retailers Association reveal a 32 per cent increase in the cross-Channel



traffic in cheap beer as fans stock up for France 98. More than 10,000 vans made the crossing last month — the highest May figure since the introduction of the single market in 1993.

The Brewers and Licensed Retailers Association, which compiled the data using undercover surveillance, does not normally release monthly figures on bootlegging, but decided to make an exception because of the scale of the trade in May.

"This is a staggering increase, with over 350 a day making the journey," said Mike Shipley, the association's spokesman. Most of it must be put down to the smugglers stocking up in preparation for the World Cup.

Customs and Excise estimates that up to 70 per cent of the 1.5 million plants coming in per day is sold illegally.

The figures are the latest evidence of the unprecedented boom in alcohol sales. Fans are expected to spend \$150 million in pubs while watching games.

The figures would be even higher were it not for the van trade, which last year cost pubs an estimated \$900 million in lost sales and the Government \$200 million in lost duty.

Bootleggers are also travelling from farther afield. While London and the South-east remain the main market, there were sharp rises in vans from Manchester, Leeds and Portsmouth, with some from Bangor, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Truro.

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## Inside

Britain

Plans to build a new airport at Heathrow have been delayed by a series of setbacks, including a decision by the government to scrap the plan to build a new airport at Heathrow.

World News

A passenger jet carrying 200 people from London to New York was delayed for several hours by a series of problems, including a decision by the government to scrap the plan to build a new airport at Heathrow.

Finance

The three big power generators have agreed new coal supply contracts, helping to secure the future of the coal industry.

Sport

England collapsed to 170 for 8 in their second innings after falling to force South Africa to follow on.

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## There's more to life than football... stay with *The Guardian International* every day this week

### Archer hits hurdle in race for mayor

Lucy Ward  
Political Correspondent

**L**ORD Archer's ambition of becoming the first elected mayor of London suffered a blow yesterday when his party leader conspicuously failed to defend him after a senior former Tory MP demanded an inquiry into allegations about his past.

In the latest chapter in the endlessly changing fortunes of the millionaire novelist, Sir Timothy Kitson, a former MP for Richmond — the Yorkshire seat now held by William Hague — has filed a formal complaint for the Tories' new ethics and integrity committee urging an inquiry into Lord Archer's fitness as a candidate.

Sir Timothy, a former whip and parliamentary private secretary to Sir Edward Heath during his period as prime minister, insisted yesterday that the Tory party must be "squeaky clean" to avoid embarrassments of the kind prompted by sleaze allegations against candidates such as Neil Hamilton.

His letter, which highlights allegations against Lord Archer including question-marks over the qualifications which won him an Oxford University place and his £2,000 gift to a prostitute he had never met, is bound to damage the peer's hopes of



Lord Archer... The peer's unashamed promotion of his candidacy for mayor of London has led to growing unease among Tories. PHOTOGRAPH: SEAN SMITH

selection as Tory mayoral candidate.

Speculation will centre on how far the call for an inquiry reflects a growing unease among some Tories with Lord Archer's unashamed promotion of his candidacy. Mr Hague, who has remained strictly neutral on the choice of candidate, is known to have strong reservations over Lord Archer, and the Tories have sought — so far unsuccessfully — alternative candidates who are well enough

known to defeat Lord Archer. The former Hong Kong governor Chris Patten, Michael Heseltine and John Major have all refused.

Sir Timothy insisted he had not spoken to Mr Hague, his constituency MP as well as a party colleague, about it. Mr Hague, questioned over the letter on the BBC's Breakfast with Frost, yesterday offered no comment on Lord Archer himself, but underlined the power of the new ethics and integrity commit-

tee. The new Tory board of directors, which has the power to refer the complaint to the committee, would respond quickly to the letter, Mr Hague said. It was important not to prejudge the procedure. The issue would be the first for the committee, whose membership has not yet been decided and which does not yet formally exist. It will have the power to veto candidates and even withdraw party membership.

Lord Archer was unavail-

able yesterday for comment. His wife Mary said he was attending the Madrid bookfair and was "rushing around" out of contact.

Sir Timothy cited London Evening Standard articles repeating claims about Lord Archer in a biography of him by the BBC journalist Michael Crick. Lord Archer had indicated he would "deal with" the claims, but had not done so. Lord Archer, he added, was also absent from a live television debate, sponsored by the Standard, between other potential candidates.

Sir Timothy added: "We can't be moving into some sort of campaign without being squeaky clean. This has got to be sorted, and that is what the committee is there to do."

Asked about Mr Hague's response to questioning, he said: "He could have said well, Kitson's probably got this all wrong but he didn't. I think that's interesting."

By the Standard, between other potential candidates.

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### Brown set for capital spending bonanza

Charlotte Denny  
and Mark Atkinson

**T**HE Chancellor, Gordon Brown, is set to confound critics of his firm grip on public spending by unleashing a wave of investment to renovate crumbling schools, hospitals and roads.

With Cabinet battles over public spending reaching a climax this month, the Treasury has disclosed that the Government still has scope to boost investment in health, education and run-down communities, while sticking to its tough overall rules.

In a paper published today, the Treasury hints that Mr Brown will adopt a twin-track approach to public finances. Keeping a tight grip on departmental running costs, including wages, but approving certain investment projects.

While this promises to bring benefits over the long term, it is unlikely to satisfy demands from nurses, doctors and teachers for higher pay. Only last week, Rodney Black, assistant general secretary of the public services union, Unison, said many were quitting, jeopardising Labour's manifesto pledges to reduce hospital waiting lists and cut class sizes.

The Chancellor has repeatedly committed the Government to sticking to the so-called Golden Rule for public finances which states that over the economic cycle, day-to-day running costs of the public sector must be funded from taxation rather than borrowing to prevent tomorrow's taxpayers being burdened with hills for today's services.

But the extra money for investment can be found without breaking this principle because spending on capital projects is excluded.

The Treasury paper says investment in schools, hospitals and roads has been neglected for 20 years. The implication is that any extra money released as a result of the Comprehensive Spending Review, due to conclude next month, will be ploughed back into renewing the fabric of the public sector.

"We have underinvested dramatically," a Treasury spokesman said. "It has implications for the efficiency of the private sector because businesses depend on the public infrastructure."

The paper blames the old fiscal regime, under which no

clear distinction was made between current and capital spending, for underinvestment. In future, each department will be expected to show the split between current and capital spending.

The message will be taken up today by Alistair Darling, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, in a speech to the finance union's annual conference in Bournemouth and by Mr Brown in his Mansion House speech on Thursday. Mr Darling will say: "Too many governments in the past have taken the axe to investment because it was the easy option. We can see that everywhere in schools, hospitals, railways and housing. The result has been chronic underinvestment in public services."

To prevent capital spending getting out of hand, Mr Brown has a second guiding principle. Over the economic cycle, the ratio of public debt to national output will be held at a "stable and prudent" level. Debt now stands at around 43 per cent of GDP,

up from 27 per cent in 1990. The Treasury spokesman warned: "We are determined to bear down on the current level of debt." The Chancellor will explain what he means by "stable and prudent" in the forthcoming spending review.

The Treasury stressed last week that with big budget deficits to make up for earlier in the cycle, the Government would need to run current surpluses for the next few years to make up for past profligacy. The golden rule has not been met in any economic cycle since the early 1970s, and current spending has exceeded receipts by 1.5 per cent of GDP a year on average since 1985.

The only threat to fiscal discipline was the possibility of sharp slowdown in output. "If the economy fell off the cliff, you would have to rethink it," said the spokesman.

Public investment has fallen to low levels by historical and international standards, despite the fact that the public sector has shrunk.

## Stranger than fiction... peer's chequered career

The tale of a novelist, a prostitute, £50 notes and a share scandal

**T**HERE are several embarrassing discrepancies between Jeffrey Archer's account of his life and that revealed by Michael Crick in his debunking 1995 biography, *writes Luke Harding*.

**THE EXAM RESULTS:** Archer left school with three O Levels. But when he arrived, aged 21, as a teacher at Dover College, a minor public school, he had miraculously acquired a degree from a US university. On his admission to Oxford two years later for a

one-year diploma in education, his qualifications had burgeoned further. He was accepted following a letter of recommendation from his old employer. The letter claimed Archer had three A Levels and had studied anatomy at the University of California. This was not true. Archer mysteriously stayed on at Oxford for two years after his Dip Ed had been completed.

**THE BUSINESS CAREER:** Crick's book, *Stranger Than Fiction*, claims that in his early years Archer gave

the impression of being much wealthier than he was. In 1974 his business world collapsed when he was massively defrauded. He decided to resign as an MP, and then exaggerated his impoverishment.

"I have now only £18 left in the world," he told a newspaper. In fact, he still had several valuable assets — including his south Kensington home. He also earned around £100,000 in 1973 and 1974 from his membership of Lloyds insurance syndicate.

**THE PROSTITUTE:** Archer resigned as deputy chairman of the Tory party in 1988. His mistake was to pay £2,000 to a prostitute he

had never met. Via an intermediary, the novelist gave Monica Coghlan an envelope full of £50 notes at Victoria Station, and told her to go ahead to avoid a scandal. Archer apologised for his "lack of judgment", but denied "any association of any kind with a prostitute".

The incident prompted a libel trial a year later when the Daily Star claimed that Archer had slept with Ms Coghlan. He was awarded £500,000. Rehabilitated, he was made a peer by John Major in 1992.

**THE ANGLIA SHARES:** Archer was the subject of a Department of Trade and Industry investigation in 1994 after he bought shares

in Anglia television, of which his wife was a non-executive director.

The day after Mary Archer attended a board meeting in which a takeover bid was secretly discussed, Archer instructed a stockbroker to buy £240,000 of shares. They were placed in the name of a Kurdish friend, Brook Sabh. When the takeover bid was announced publicly four days later the share price leapt by 180p. Archer then sold the shares, making an £80,000 profit for his friend.

The novelist dismissed allegations of insider trading and was cleared by Michael Heseltine, then President of the Board of Trade.



Monica Coghlan... Archer quit after paying her £2,000

## Beyond the view of TV cameras, a killer stalks western Kosovo

continued from page 1 witnesses to such looting can be found. But the Serbs usually shoot many of those who have not run off.

"The Serbs started shelling on May 25," said Adem Bushati, aged 66, a farmer from Lubeniq. "At lunchtime about 150 military vehicles and police arrived. A group of 15 attacked my house. I somehow got out and hid in the long grass for four hours. It was raining. I saw them going into the houses. They took a 67-year-old man and his four sons. They asked the father which one he wanted to spare. He asked for the youngest, and they released him. Then they stripped the others to their underwear, told them to

run, and shot them in the back." Mr Bushati did not see the murder himself, but says he heard about it from a 15-year-old boy who also escaped.

The village of Krushevo was different. "The Serbs didn't get in here, because our forces didn't let them," a farmer said. His remark sounded more than a little bombastic since large parts of his home were wrecked. There were two gaping holes in one wall and the front bedroom had been blown away. Yugoslav army tanks had fired from a road 100 yards away on May 29, he said. In spite of the damage, the ground floor had been lovingly cleared of debris. The

carpets were swept and the sofa was ready once again for visitors — even though the front wall was gone.

In better days western Kosovo was a region of relatively wealthy farmers. Almost every family has sons or brothers in Germany, Austria or Switzerland who send back money. Battered Volkswagen estates and large Mercedes still ply the backroads.

In the 40 years of Enver Hoxha's Stalinist rule in Albania, the collective farm system partly undermined the ancient traditions of the Albanian family, to Kosovo, where Tito allowed private farming. It remains intact, with married brothers bringing up their children in their

father's compound. Often there are three or four houses behind one set of walls.

This archaic network of extended families is proving to be western Kosovo's salvation as the tide of refugees flows

**'The father asked them to spare his youngest son. Then they told the rest to run, and shot them in the back'**

through the country lanes. They know no one will be turned away. The Albanian leadership wants to turn this into policy. With all the roads to Feje blocked, I took a local train from Pristina on Friday

morning. At a newly-organised safe-house in Feje an activist from the Council for Human Rights was sitting at a computer, preparing a communiqué to be distributed around the region by hand.

"Don't abandon your homes and property," it said. "Going somewhere else doesn't mean you'll be safe. Everywhere you go outside your home country you'll be someone's servant. We ask

you to stay in your houses. Better days are coming."

This is not just armchair radicalism by people living in the relative safety of Feje. Every day a group of a dozen Feje citizens sets out along the backroads on foot or by cart with medicine for the refugees and the fighters. I travelled with one of them.

"We have 170 wounded," said a woman in her 30s as the boxes of supplies were opened and the contents split among the carriers. This being war and with tensions high, along with the glucose infusions and serum there were cigarettes.

The 10-mile journey, which sometimes requires running while crouching to dodge

Serb sniper fire at Decan, is the last part of the journey. "It starts in Montenegro," said a pharmacist. "For several days the Serbs have been checking all Albanian chemists to note their stocks. We now bring the stuff on foot from Montenegro to Feje."

But the solidarity and network of the bereaved cannot banish all the despair or grief of the bereaved. Occasionally a refugee became impatient as I listened through a young Albanian interpreter. "They wanted direct contact, and used a phrase or two in German. 'Grosse Katastrophe, grosse Katastrophe,'" one elderly man repeated. "Ka-putt," said another, throwing up his hands.

The young veteran of the Bosnian war wanted stronger arms. "If somebody would help us and give us better weapons we could push the Serbs out. We have the morale and the people. We're just not strong enough technically. We can't do frontal assaults," he said.

But the majority of those I spoke to were not in a condition to have a go, however patriotic they felt. To stop the serial killers striking yet again, they wanted a properly-trained policeman whose chosen career involves risk.

"Only big soldiers," pleaded a middle-aged woman in German. "Nato?" I asked. She pursed her lips and nodded.

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Pugnacious Jeremy Paxman, favoured by frontrunner Granada, and Trevor McDonald, whose viewer-friendly style appealed to Carlton. PHOTOGRAPHS: JEFF OVEERS AND RICHARD KENDALL

## Paxman versus McDonald for ITV's prestigious 60 Minutes

Stuart Millar

TWO of Britain's most popular journalists have emerged as frontrunners to present the ITV version of the eminent American news magazine, 60 Minutes — a development billed as the most prestigious in current affairs broadcasting for a generation.

Despite their vastly contrasting styles, Jeremy Paxman, the pugnacious presenter of Newsnight, and Trevor McDonald, the friendly face of News at Ten, are being touted as the main contenders to front the programme. ITV hopes to re-establish its reputation for authoritative journalism.

Carlton and 20/20 Television want to use McDonald paired with the Channel 5 news anchor, Kirsty Young.

In recent presentations to ITV on May 28, Paxman was proposed as presenter by Granada, which favours his hard-hitting reputation and his appeal to younger viewers. He was also backed by Lord Hollick's United News and Media, which owns the regional ITV stations, Anglia, ITV and Meridian.

Insiders stress that a decision is not imminent. Senior executives have yet to choose a company, and only then can detailed negotiations begin with potential anchors. Even then, they may be under contract elsewhere or simply uninterested in the job.

ITV, which hopes the programme will be broadcast every Wednesday from early next year, instructed competing companies not to enter into contracts with presenters to prevent a bidding war before the production contract had been awarded.

Instead, they were allowed to approach their targets only for permission to use their names in the bids. But it is accepted that there is a limited pool from which to choose a suitable presenter.

Despite being named Interviewer of the Year by the Royal Television Society last month, Paxman, is said to be feeling unsettled at the BBC. His contract with Newsnight runs out in September, and he may be unable to resist the twin temptations of a reported £500,000 salary and a high-profile ITV programme which would go out to a peak-time audience of 8 million.

But claims that he has already become the clear favourite may prove premature. McDonald's popularity, especially with ITV viewers, as well as his accessibility, makes him a strong contender. Pairing him with Young would meet the requirement of appealing to a younger audience.

The successful bidder will have to have his choice of presenter approved by the network. As a result, even if Granada, the current frontrunner, wins the contract, ITV may choose to go with McDonald or the McDonald/Young pairing.

The launch of 60 Minutes is ITV's most important gambit to revitalise its factual programming — and it is likely to mean the end of World in Action, its current affairs flagship for the last 25 years.

The network has seen its ratings fall and has faced criticism from the Independent Television Commission about "cautious and predictable" scheduling and "disappointing" coverage of international issues. It was also accused by the Campaign for Quality Television of failing in its duty to provide serious documentaries.

Much rests therefore on its ability to translate the success of the CBS original, which is believed to have become the most lucrative programme in the history of American television since it was launched in 1968.

### Famous names, famous styles

**Jeremy Paxman**  
Aged: 48  
Education: Malvern College; St Catharine's College, Cambridge.  
Career: BBC trainee, moved to Panorama; big break with Breakfast TV where he established his fearsome interview reputation; moved to Newsnight in 1990.  
Interests: haranguing students on University Challenge; fishing.  
Style: the politician's nemesis — uncompromising and cynical.  
High point: named Interviewer of the Year for legendary grilling of former home secretary Michael Howard.  
Low point: watching his rival David Dimbleby get the plum jobs.

**Trevor McDonald**  
Aged: 58  
Education: Naprima College, Trinidad; University of the West Indies.  
Career: Radio Trinidad; then BBC World Service's Caribbean section; BBC Radio 1 in London in 1969; ITN four years later as first black reporter; Main News at Ten presenter since 1992.  
Interests: cricket, cigars, proper English.  
Style: viewer's friend — calm, cuddly and sensitive newsreader.  
High point: did first interview with freed Nelson Mandela.  
Low point: criticised for being "too friendly" while interviewing John Major, then prime minister.

Unlike traditional British documentary programmes, 60 Minutes, and the young presenters it has spawned — Hard Copy, Prime Time, and 5th Estate — cover three to four stories in each programme, using tightly-packaged "news dramas". The combination of high-quality current affairs reporting and sharp news reporting has made them appeal to millions of viewers.

Lynda Jones, one of the Labour MPs to voice concern over the proposals, yesterday told GMTV's Sunday Programme she and "a lot" of others would be abstaining in today's vote.

Tony Benn, speaking on Sky TV Sunday with Adam Boulton, said he would vote against fees and the abolition of grants, which would reduce access to higher education for the less well-off. He dismissed the suggestion that the Government's plans were justified because graduates tended to earn more in later life.

"Tax them if they are rich, not if they are educated," he said.

## Labour softens student loan blow

Lucy Ward  
Political Correspondent

THE Government will today unveil limited concessions over student loans, to try to avert a threatened backbench rebellion against planned university tuition fees.

However, David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, will stand firm against demands that he drop plans to abolish the student maintenance grant in advance of new figures showing applications among school-leavers for this September are up by 1 per cent, despite the introduction of fees.

from the rest of the UK, who spend two years in the sixth form against Scottish students' one, to start degree courses in the second year, saving them a year's fees.

There will also be no move, despite pressure from adult learning campaigners, to extend the government loans package to part-time students, who have always had to pay fees. They will be eligible for help from an access fund which ministers have promised to double.

Though leftwingers, including Tony Benn, yesterday reiterated opposition to the changes in higher education funding, ministers do not fear a rebellion on anything like the scale of the lone parents protest last December, in which 47 Labour MPs defied the whip and voted against the Government.

The applications figures from the University and Colleges Admissions Service, UCAS, are timely and will allow Mr Blunkett to argue that, despite fears to the contrary, the introduction of fees does not put school leavers off attending university. However, the 1 per cent increase this year may be partly down to an overall rise in the number of 18-year-olds.

The 10 per cent fall in mature applicants is likely to be explained as an inevitable dip after a boom in adults coming late to higher education. It follows a drop last year, which was not affected by fees.

The Government will also insist that extra funding from fees is essential if access to higher education is to be widened to include new groups of students.

Mr Blunkett will not water down plans to bring in £1,000-a-year means-tested tuition fees or abolish grants, but he will announce moves to extend state-subsidised loans for mature students up to age 65 rather than the planned 50.

In a further move aimed at winning round objectors on the left, there is also expected to be some further financial help for single parents and children from one-parent families while studying.

Despite protests from Scottish MPs spurred on by furious universities, there will be no action to deal with the controversial "Scottish anomaly" in the Bill, under which English, Welsh and Northern Irish students must pay the full four years' worth of fees to take the standard four-year degree course at universities north of the border, while Scottish students and those from the rest of the European Union pay for only three.

Instead, the Government will encourage Scottish universities to allow students

### Review

## Time has come to dig the Irish roots

Garth Cartwright

Fleadh  
Finsbury Park,  
north London

THIS MAY be the year when the festival phenomenon starts to retract. The cancellation of last month's Universe Festival and the axing of July's proposed LightHouse Family-headlined event are sending warning signals through an overcrowded industry.

Even the Fleadh, throughout this decade Irish London's big day out, flirted with failure. Initial headlines Simple Minds sold so few tickets that they were quickly dumped and replaced by those granddaddies of Manchester baggy, James.

Having scored a surprise number 1 with their Best Of

CD earlier this year, James attracted a decent audience of overgrown indie kids. That the weather provided perfect festival sunshine helped, and around 18,000 punters (capacity 28,000) attended — enough to see the Fleadh return next year but as exactly what type of festival? Outside of U2 — who would never sign to play such an event — no contemporary Irish act is capable of headlining the event while it is treated as a leading rock festival. Yet the booking of such pompous rockers as Simple Minds and James detracts from the spirit that once made it the most relaxed festival of the year.

Downsizing might be an idea — with an emphasis on acoustic and country artists, although the feasibility of running the Fleadh as such must be uncertain.

Saturday's Fleadh posed

many questions, yet offered few answers. Australia's Robert Forster and Canada's Ron Sexsmith both displayed their fine song-writing talents, veteran Irish singers Paul Brady and Mary Coughlan remain towering presences, while New Orleans native Dr John provided the day's most magical music with his swaggering, piano-driven, psychedelic funk. And those, pretty much, were the highlights. Billy Bragg, who surely could claim native status at Finsbury Park, was backed by a band who stomped through a set of Woody Guthrie numbers, aided by Bragg's onstage commentary. Mike Scott ignored the Irish roots he adopted in the 80s, instead rocking in a seriously retrogressive manner. Shane McGowan managed to stand up long enough to bluster through a dozen crowd pleasers, though the

toothless wonder could be wearing out his lengthy welcome.

Ireland's first family, the Corrs, have looks, melody and charm but so little substance a strong breeze would have blown them off stage. Substance is something Sinéad O'Connor has no shortage of and she attracted a near capacity crowd to the smaller stage while James blustered through their hits and misses on the main stage.

Sinéad O'Connor still possesses a heavenly voice and hellish songs. Sure, she sang that song and the roof nearly lifted. But she also sang too many other earnest epics to suggest she has matured as an artist.

The Fleadh is now seen as being promoted as the Guinness Fleadh. A future as a beer festival accompanied by a few singers? I'll drink to that.



Whether it's teenagers keeping up with their friends, children discovering the internet, or you working from home, these days one phone line just isn't enough.

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What's more, both of your lines can benefit from the

BT discounts that you may already have, like Friends & Family and PremierLine.

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Freefone 0800 22 22 99. **BT** It's good to talk

**Thatcherism really is vanquished in the public mind — yet it lingers on in Labour's more fearful thoughts. For there is nothing more communitarian we do in life than to pay our taxes.**

Polly Toynbee

**Comment, page 8**

## Down set 'capital ending nanza

clear distinction was between current and spending, for investment. In future, each element will be expected to be the split between current capital spending.

The message will be up today by Assistant Secretary to the Treasury, in a speech to the Finance Union's annual conference in Bournemouth.

Mr Brown, in his 15-minute speech on Tuesday, said that the government will be taking the rate of public sector borrowing into account, and that the government will be taking the rate of public sector borrowing into account, and that the government will be taking the rate of public sector borrowing into account.

## Too many governmentists taken the axe investment. It's the easy option

the Treasury has been clear that the government will be taking the rate of public sector borrowing into account, and that the government will be taking the rate of public sector borrowing into account, and that the government will be taking the rate of public sector borrowing into account.

## em Kosovo

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331  
stations have now been regenerated by RAILTRACK  
heart of the railway



Strategy sought as more males aged 16 to 24 kill themselves than die on the roads

# Belfast suicides rise as Troubles subside

John Mullin  
Ireland Correspondent

**P**OLITICIANS and community workers in west Belfast are meeting today to co-ordinate a strategy against the mushrooming suicide rate.

"It is the No. 1 issue in the city," a youth worker said. "Suicides among males aged 16 to 24 in Northern Ireland are for the first time outstripping deaths through road accidents. The Government is coming under pressure to investigate."

John Lacey, the Belfast coroner who said there had been a significant increase this year in young people hanging themselves, revealed that he was dealing with the apparent suicides of children as young as 10. He wrote last week to Tony Worthington, the Northern Ireland health minister, asking him to announce an inquiry.

The problem areas include west and north Belfast. As well as having pockets of severe deprivation, each of the inner-city areas has been on the frontline throughout the Troubles.

Some psychiatrists believe the reduction in terrorist violence may be contributing to the increase. People are focus-

ing again on their own problems rather than those of the community.

Suicide rates in Northern Ireland fell sharply soon after the conflict began in 1969, and are still below those in the rest of the United Kingdom. Britain had similar experiences in both world wars and the Falklands war.

Government figures show that 33 people under 25 killed themselves in Northern Ireland in 1997. More than 20 young people are believed to have committed suicide this year, with a 20-year-old and 15-year-old boy hanging themselves in separate incidents last week.

One survey, by research students at the University of Ulster, claimed that 16 people in Northern Ireland were attempting to take their own life every day. One, on average, was successful.

While health officials doubted the problem was as serious as that, Mr Lacey conceded that official statistics underestimate the extent of suicide. He said coroners were reluctant to bring in a suicide verdict unless the proof was overwhelming.

"Experts might be able to say for sure whether the ceasefire has something to do with the increase," he said. "My own view is that the research be done both before and after the ceasefire."

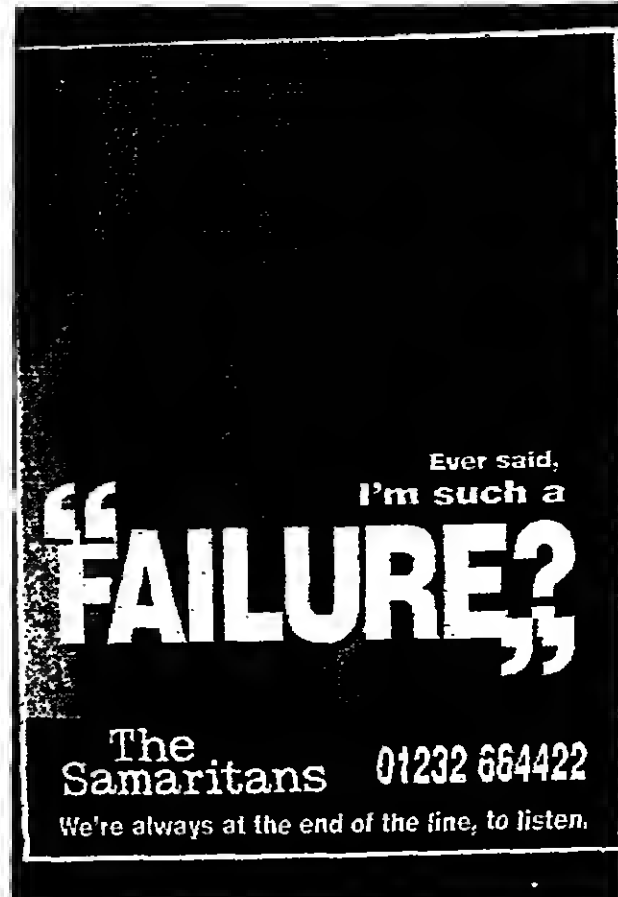
Fra McCann, a Sinn Féin councillor in west Belfast, said his 21-year-old niece had hanged herself in March. She was one of 11 people that he knew had committed suicide in west Belfast this year.

Mr McCann, who will be at today's summit, said: "Parents are panic-stricken. It is unbelievable, an epidemic. People are terrified of arguing with their kids in case they go off and kill themselves. It dominates every conversation in west Belfast. The rumour mill is in overdrive."

The Samaritans said yesterday: "We are very, very concerned. We cannot be sure why it is happening, but there are big increases in some areas. The incidence rate is very high in west Belfast. We find young men are just unwilling to talk about their feelings."

"We have just put 60 advertisements on to buses specifically to reach out to young people. We are considering a cinema advert."

William Smith, a community worker across the peace-line on the Protestant Shankill Road, said: "The number of attempted suicides is frightening. Adults who need help know where they can go. But children don't. We have to actively seek these children out to get them help. It is the No. 1 issue in every area of Belfast."



Samaritans' attempt to reach out to young people

## Murder case dropped against wife, daughter

Ex-beauty queen tells of 'release from hell' two days before trial

John Ezzard

**A** FORMER beauty queen was told to feel as if "released from hell" yesterday after being told that charges of murdering her millionaire husband had been dropped.

Linda Watson, aged 42, was given the news two days before she and her daughter, Amanda London-Williams, aged 24, were to appear at the Old Bailey today. The Crown Prosecution Service dropped the case for insufficient evidence after an inquiry in which detectives

took 200 statements. The pair were charged last July — with an unknown third person — of murdering Richard Watson, aged 55, in the drive of their £400,000 home near East Grinstead, Sussex. They denied the offence.

Mr Watson, who ran a computer company and had been involved with companies now liquidated, was killed by a shotgun bullet in the head after parking his car.

His daughter said she saw the killer dressed in black, with a balaclava hiding his face. Police said the murder was well planned.

A few days beforehand, Mr Watson was robbed of £2,000 by two men wearing balaclavas. He was left with a 3in cut on his face. Mrs Watson, a former Miss Arbroath and a Miss Scotland runner-up, and Miss London-Williams, a ballet teacher and a former Ballerina dancer, were told by defence lawyers of the decision to drop charges.

The decision, confirmed by the CPS in a statement yesterday, was taken after legal consultations on Friday.

A friend of Mrs Watson said: "It has been hell for them both. This has been a terrible ordeal for her at a time when she was trying to deal with the grief of her husband having been murdered. I think time will show there were flaws in the police

investigation and avenues of inquiry that officers failed to follow. I was confident Linda would never be convicted, because there has never been any evidence against her."

Jeff Hyde, solicitor for Miss London-Williams, Mrs Watson's daughter by her first marriage to the Scottish folk singer Bryan Taylor, said: "On the evidence we have there was no chance of a conviction, because Amanda was not involved."

Mother and daughter said they were in the house at the time Mr Watson was shot, making Christmas puddings.

His firm, with a staff of eight, exports industrial computer systems worldwide and reportedly sold equipment to the Moscow telephone ex-

change. One theory explored by police was that Mr Watson might have fallen victim to a contract killer hired by the Russian mafia.

The killing was featured on the BBC's Crimewatch programme, and a £50,000 reward was put up for information leading to a conviction.

A month later Mrs Watson told journalists: "I would not be able to speak to you now if I was not sedated."

"I can't recount what happened. I have explained to the police that I cannot be taken to a certain point because I have not actually come to terms with what has happened."

"I can't understand why this has happened. My life has ended."

## The weather in Europe



City	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Precip
London	15	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Birmingham	14	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Manchester	13	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Cardiff	12	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Belfast	11	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Paris	16	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Brussels	15	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Amsterdam	14	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Copenhagen	13	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Stockholm	12	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Helsinki	11	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Moscow	10	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Warsaw	9	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Berlin	8	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Vienna	7	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Budapest	6	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Sofia	5	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Belgrade	4	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Zagreb	3	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Ljubljana	2	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Prague	1	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Bratislava	0	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Warsaw	-1	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
London	-2	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain

## European outlook

Scandinavia will be unsettled with heavy showers, thunderstorms and large spells of rain in many areas. Temperatures in the west will range from around 10C in the north and 16-20C in the south. Finland, however, will reach 22C.

Low Countries, Germany, Austria, Switzerland: The Low Countries and Germany will be mainly fine with sunny spells, though there will be rain in the afternoon and evening. The Alpine countries will have some heavy, some times thunder, showers. Highs 16-20C, but up to 24C in eastern Austria.

France: Most of France will have a dry day with some good spells of sunshine, the best of this along the south coast. However, cloud will steadily thicken over Brittany bringing rain sweeping across northern France during the day. Highs 19-22C, but up to 24C in the south coast.

Spain and Portugal: Both Spain and Portugal will have virtually unbroken hot sunshine in most areas with cooling sea breezes on the coasts. The north coast and mountains of Spain will be a bit cloudier, but will remain dry. Highs will range from 24C in the north to 34C around Cordoba.

Italy: Northern Italy will see more in the way of cloud with the risk of a shower over the Alps, but most of the country will stay dry with plenty of hot sunshine. Highs 24-28C.

Greece: It will be fine and dry with long periods of sunshine in all areas with cooling sea breezes around the coast and islands. Highs 29-32C inland, but 25-28C in coastal areas and the islands.

## Around the world

Yesterday's weather reports

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Precip
London	15	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Birmingham	14	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Manchester	13	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Cardiff	12	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Belfast	11	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Paris	16	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Brussels	15	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Amsterdam	14	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Copenhagen	13	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Stockholm	12	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Helsinki	11	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Moscow	10	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Warsaw	9	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Berlin	8	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Vienna	7	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Budapest	6	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Sofia	5	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Belgrade	4	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Zagreb	3	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Ljubljana	2	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Prague	1	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Bratislava	0	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
Warsaw	-1	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain
London	-2	SW 10	Cloudy	Rain

## Television and radio

### BBC 1

7.00am Business Breakfast, 8.00am BBC Breakfast News, 9.00am A Day with Pat, 10.00am News, 11.00am The General, 11.30am The World at One, 12.00pm News, 1.00pm The Archers, 2.00pm News, 2.30pm The World at Two, 3.00pm News, 3.30pm The Archers, 4.00pm News, 4.30pm The World at Three, 5.00pm News, 5.30pm The Archers, 6.00pm News, 6.30pm The World at Four, 7.00pm News, 7.30pm The Archers, 8.00pm News, 8.30pm The World at Five, 9.00pm News, 9.30pm The Archers, 10.00pm News, 10.30pm The World at Six, 11.00pm News, 11.30pm The Archers, 12.00am News, 12.30am The World at Seven, 1.00am News, 1.30am The Archers, 2.00am News, 2.30am The World at Eight, 3.00am News, 3.30am The Archers, 4.00am News, 4.30am The World at Nine, 5.00pm News, 5.30pm The Archers, 6.00pm News, 6.30pm The World at Ten, 7.00pm News, 7.30pm The Archers, 8.00pm News, 8.30pm The World at Eleven, 9.00pm News, 9.30pm The Archers, 10.00pm News, 10.30pm The World at Twelve, 11.00pm News, 11.30pm The Archers, 12.00am News, 12.30am 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# Women take shot at travel writers

**Rory Carroll on plot to take testosterone out of adventure**

THEY trekked across deserts and through jungles, scaled icy peaks, shot lions, dodged wild animals, endured horrific diseases — and came back to tell the tale. Nothing could hurt this breed of stoic adventurer. Until now. Travel writers have been stung by an attack from an unsuspecting enemy.

Eleven female authors have declared war on gung-bo travel writing, claiming that the genre is dying and should be put out of its misery. Deriving exploits turned into books are nothing but testosterone-fuelled follies, they say. Women should take over.

Dea Birkett and Sara Wheeler, co-editors of *Amazonian*, the Penguin anthology of women's new travel writing, accuse young male adventurers of being anachronistic shadows of their grandfathers.

"We've had enough willies in the jungle," said Ms Birkett. "Men want to conquer the territory they travel through and plant a flag on it. But women want to be conquered by the territory, to be enchanted and intrigued by it. That makes for better writing."

New travel writing, said Ms Birkett, aged 38, is about the writer's inner journey as the most important part of a travel book.

The counter-charge is being led by the explorer Wilfred Thesiger, aged 84, who shot 70 lions in Sudan and 2,000 hours in Iraq. Any attempt to redefine the concept of travel literature would fail due to the genetic unsuitability of women, he said.

"I don't think it's right that they should dominate. Why? Because they're women: they're not the same as us. They're not equipped for exploration. A woman's job is to stay at home and look after the kids."

However Benedict Allan, aged 38, travel writer and broadcaster, said he would be relieved if a feminised genre enabled him to dump his indignant Jones image, manufactured in response to perceived reader and viewer demand.

He said other writers shared Mr Thesiger's view but saved it for the company of fellow misogynists. "Men are more crafty now. They don't say these things unless they want a really bad hammering over political correctness."

"Personally I welcome the women. I've often been expected to do the hero stuff, but originally I was driven by curiosity."

Ms Birkett and Ms Wheeler said the point of the anthology — and of women's new travel writing — was that authors did not have to do anything daring or heroically suffer great acts of violence.

They want to banish the experience of one woman, who pitched a travel book at a publisher and was told it was a pity she hadn't been raped by 15 Arabs.

In their collection, stories could be unashamedly tame, intimate and domestic, concentrating on the emotional inner journey.

Jan Morris, aged 71, whose writing has continued to win awards since her sex change, said she would not be a reader. "When I became a woman I thought my eye would be sharper, see things better, like a computer you could flick on and flick off. But I've learned after an incredibly difficult time that that's not the case."

"The greatest writing is



Wilfred Thesiger dressed for Arabian travels: women should 'stay at home and look after the kids'; and (below) Dea Birkett: 'We've had enough of willies in the jungle'

omnisexual, like Shakespeare."

Since Annie Hore's *To Lake Tanganyika in a Bath Chair* (1896), debate has raged over whether women's travel writing should be classified differently from accounts of conquest and races to be first.

The explorer Redmond O'Hanlon, aged 51, who takes with him as protection a

Congo souvenir — the severed finger of a dead child — said women were better travellers. "All the so-called primitive groups respond better to women. Women are better at gossiping, they get more information faster."

"Also they're tougher than men. They've an extra layer of subcutaneous fat which helps to keep them warm."



## Female 'inner eye'

"It is the absence of clutter, the hush, that great white expanse of nothingness, that is so appealing. A place that can allow your inward eye to see more clearly; a mental room of my own."

**Ginny Dougary's Arctic adventure included in Amazonian: The Penguin Book of Women's New Travel Writing.**

"The only use of a gentleman in travelling is to look after the luggage."

**Emily Lowe, Unprotected Females in Norway, 1857**

## The intrepid male

"I killed upwards of 1000 quadrupeds, of which 200 were stuffed and brought home, with more than 80 skeletons. . . I suffered 50 attacks of the African fever, taking, to cure myself, more than 14 ounces of quinine. Of famine, long-continued exposures to the heavy tropical rains, and attacks of ferocious ants and venomous flies, it is not worth while to speak."

**Paul du Chaillu, 19th century explorer, in his book Explorations and Adventure in Equatorial Africa.**

# After Rajah's spine was severed, it took him two years to learn how to turn a page.

## Please don't turn this one.

Rajah struggled through years of frustration and pain, just to lift a finger. At his bedside, giving him encouragement and care, was Celia, a 32 year old doctor. Celia donated two years of her life to work as a volunteer with VSO (Voluntary Service Overseas), in India. Here, she found herself training local community health workers as well as treating patients. Her reward was seeing Rajah's optimism return. For Rajah, lifting his finger was the hardest thing he had ever done in his life. Please will you lift a finger? The work of Celia and our other volunteers would not be possible without the generosity of people like you. For more information about how you can support VSO, either as a volunteer or by making a donation, fill in the coupon or call 0181 780 7391.



Please send me more information about Voluntary Service Overseas.

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☐ I am also enclosing a donation of £100 ☐ £50 ☐ £25 ☐ other \_\_\_\_\_

Cheques payable to "Voluntary Service Overseas" or debit my \_\_\_\_\_

Master/Visa/Amex or other (delete as appropriate) \_\_\_\_\_

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I do not wish to receive future correspondence from VSO

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this to: VSO, Room R38, 317, Bank of America Building, London SW14 2JL

# Plea on NHS death rate league tables

Janet Wilson

PLANS by the Government to require hospitals to publish league tables showing the death rates of their patients received a cautious welcome from the medical profession yesterday. From October, all hospitals in England and Wales will have to publish annual statistics showing the percentage of patients who died after being admitted for illnesses including heart disease, cancer and hip problems.

The aim of the tables is to set up an "early warning system" to highlight unusually high mortality statistics following the scandal at Bristol Royal Infirmary when 29 children died and four were brain damaged after heart operations over several years.

Stephen Thornton, chief executive of the NHS Confederation, which represents the health authorities and NHS trusts, gave a guarded welcome to the plans.

"It is best to be straightforward and open so that the public know where they stand," Mr Thornton said.

But he cautioned that the

tables would have to be weighed to take account of the age of patients being treated, their condition on arrival at hospital, and a variety of other factors.

"We must be careful to compare like with like and to avoid defensive medicine where clinicians refuse to carry out some types of surgery," he said.

The tables will focus on deaths following surgery but include details such as ages of patients and the difficulties surrounding their cases.

The Government hopes the move will enable "meaningful comparisons" of death rate by hospital to be made and will act as a "powerful weapon to raise standards in the NHS" by galvanising surgeons and managers into making sure that lives are not put at risk unnecessarily.

Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, is expected to tell Labour's backbench health committee on Tuesday: "Patients, wherever they live, have a right to expect the best possible care and treatment in the NHS."

"In the vast majority of cases they get it. However, the appalling tragedy of Bristol cannot be allowed to hap-

pen again. These tables will help provide the quality assurance patients want."

Charles Ashton, the medical director at the Worcester Royal Infirmary, said yesterday: "I would hate for us to get into a situation similar to that in America where the doctors with the lowest mortality rates only take on low risk cases to protect their reputation."

League tables introduced in Scotland in 1994 by the last government drew sharp criticism from doctors that they were misleading and would deter patients from getting treatment.

Plans to introduce the tables in England and Wales were shelved following the outcry, but it is thought that the events in Bristol have now forced the British Medical Association (BMA) into a U-turn.

The Government is also to set up an independent health improvement commission which will involve every NHS trust being visited every three or four years. It will have special powers to investigate where problems arise and will be advised by a range of people, including patients themselves.

# Let It Be to ring out in final tribute to Linda McCartney

Stuart Millar

THE Beatles classic *Let It Be* will ring around Trafalgar Square tonight as Sir Paul McCartney is joined by thousands of friends and well-wishers to pay tribute to his wife, Linda.

While the choir and the 700-strong congregation at St Martin-in-the-Fields sing the song as a final farewell, up to 3,000 animal rights campaigners and fans will hold a candlelit vigil in the square outside the memorial service.

Some reports had suggested Sir Paul and the other two surviving Beatles, George Harrison and Ringo Starr,

would perform *Let It Be* in their first public appearance together in almost 30 years.

But a spokesman for the family dismissed the claim as "unseemly".

Sir Paul has personally organised the service, which he wants to be as much a celebration of Linda's life as an opportunity to mourn her death from breast cancer in April, aged 56.

Accompanied by their children — Heather, 36, Mary, 27, Stella, 26, and James, 21 — he will give the address. The actress, Joanna Lumley, and the television writer, Carla Lane — both animal rights campaigners and friends of Linda — will also speak.

"I believe there will be a brief mourning and then a celebration of Linda's life," Ms Lane said. "Paul does not want it to be a morbid affair."

She will read a message from the thousands expected to attend the vigil outside.

Organised by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and other charities, Linda was associated with the vigil will draw supporters from across Britain and Europe.

The childhood home of John Lennon in Woolton, Liverpool, has become the first building outside London to be nominated for a blue plaque award. But the award cannot be made until 2000, when he would have been dead for 20 years.

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# Britain warned over EU rivalries

Martin Walker in Helsinki

**T**ONY BLAIR will be warned today by one of his closest political allies that Europe is at risk from a revival of nationalism in Germany and France, whose alliance has hitherto been the driving force behind the European project.

"This is my biggest worry," Finland's Social Democrat prime minister, Paavo Lipponen, told the Guardian. He said he was expressing the feelings of the European Union's smaller countries. "We all have to be aware of this danger. All the smaller member states agree on this."

"We saw these alarming signs in that grim weekend in Brussels, when we launched the single currency with that row between France and Germany over the central bank. Unless this trend can be reversed, and I will raise this at the EU summit in Cardiff, then Europe is heading for real trouble," Mr Lipponen said.

Finland, which takes over the EU presidency in the summer of next year, fears that rows over the EU budget, agricultural reform and, above all, EU enlargement could intensify nationalist trends. "Enlargement is looking much more problematic than it did a year ago," Mr Lipponen said.

Germany's refusal to continue as the paymaster of Europe, and the insistence of poorer members states, such as Spain and Greece, that the entry of impoverished eastern European countries should not be financed by cutting their payments from Brussels, created "an impossible equation which had to be addressed at the Cardiff summit this weekend."

"We need a complete and frank discussion to help us clear the air after this most nationalist tone from the big member states," Mr Lipponen said.

The Finnish prime minister, who was careful not to criticise openly the British stewardship of the EU presidency, said he understood Mr Blair "had been very active with Northern Ireland and British domestic reform."

But he said he would leave Mr Blair in no doubt today that the European crisis had to be addressed, and that the Cardiff summit agenda had to go far beyond London's tired rhetoric about "bridging Europe closer to its citizens."

Mr Lipponen will also give Mr Blair a friendly warning that Britain's cause in Europe is not helped by his perceived preference for President Bill Clinton and the United States. This reinforces the impression in Europe that Britain's loyalty to US strategic interests undermines Mr Blair's claim to be "a partner in leadership in Europe."

It also puts into doubt the Clinton-Blair plans for a political summit this autumn of the world's centre-left party leaders. "The US system is not necessarily the model we Europeans want to follow," Mr Lipponen said.

"While it is a good idea to open a dialogue between Europe's social democrats and the American Democratic Party, we must also maintain links with the Republicans, and take into account the US role as a superpower."

As a modernising Social Democrat who has embraced the free market and slashed public spending and high tax rates, Mr Lipponen is a natural ally — of Mr Blair's New Labour. But like other established centre-left figures in Europe he chafes at the Blairite assumption that Britain is leading a new ideological movement.

"We don't have much to learn from New Labour," Mr Lipponen said. "Nordic social democracy has been pragmatic for a long time, and has learned to work with market economics. What is essential to learn from our model is consensus between government and its social partners in the economy, the employers and the unions."

Mr Lipponen, aged 57, still plays enthusiastic water polo, and married a 30-year-old teacher this year who will soon give birth to their first child.

Running a "rainbow coalition" with Greens and conservatives, he slashed the state's share of Finland's gross domestic product from 60 to 50 per cent in an unprecedented burst of austerity to haul the country out of its deepest post-war recession.

Finland now rivals Ireland as the fastest-growing economy in the EU.

The key to Finland's economic revival, after the collapse of the Soviet Union devastated its traditional export market and raised unemployment to 18 per cent, has been an Old Labour-style national incomes policy.

This feat, in a country where 80 per cent of the workforce are in trade unions, was achieved through a trade-off between a wage-restraint pact and tax cuts.

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The FBI crime lab enlarges Thomas Jefferson's letter to reveal the words he crossed out in setting out his principle of the separation of Church and state. PHOTOGRAPH: PAUL ROSEFF

## Sacred ideal founded on Jefferson's fudge

Martin Kettle in Washington

**M**ODERN detective work by the FBI has revealed the political calculations behind one of Thomas Jefferson's most famous pronouncements — and thereby given hope to Christian groups that his words, contained in a 200-year-old document, may no longer be used by the courts to exclude daily prayers and religious observance from the heart of American life.

The 18th-century founders of the United States were opposed to their country having a state religion and established a clear separation between Church and state which has been consistently upheld by the courts ever since.

The principle was most famously embodied in an open letter that Jefferson, the third US president and the author of the Declaration of Independence, wrote to a group of Baptists in Danbury, Connecticut, in 1802. In it he said the constitution had built "a wall of separation between church and state".

Supreme court justices and policymakers have often cited these words, even though they form no part of the constitution, to show that the founding fathers wanted religion and government kept apart.

Over the years, the Danbury letter has shaped the courts' rulings on such subjects as organised prayers and religious education in schools, both of which are banned, and state funding to religious social service groups.

Americans have believed that the letter embodied one of those high-flown Jeffersonian ideals of free nationhood on which the US was founded. But the new research reveals a more pragmatic reality.

The draft of the letter contains several crossings out and passages of rewriting. When the Library of Congress in Washington began preparing an exhibition on "religion and the founding of the American republic", it handed the draft to the FBI to see if its experts could penetrate Jefferson's drafting process.

The FBI applied computerised crime lab techniques more often used on ransom notes and blackmail demands. The draft was scanned into a computer, enlarged and Jefferson's later ink additions removed dot by dot. It was like using "a digital airbrush", the FBI's laboratory head, Donald Kerr, said.

1775-76: Jefferson was part of the Virginia state delegation sent to the Second Continental Congress, where he helped draft the Declaration of Independence.

1789: First US secretary of state. Resigned in 1793 over his sympathy for France's revolutionaries.

4 March 1801: Inaugurated as third US president. His presidency saw Louisiana acquired from France and the import of slaves abolished.

James Hutson of the Library of Congress, that he wrote the letter for "thoroughly political" reasons. Mr Hutson says the fact that Jefferson consulted two New Englanders in his cabinet before making the changes showed it was "not a dispassionate theoretical pronouncement".

Mr Hutson says Jefferson was anxious to calm the suspicion he was "irreligious". Two days after writing the letter, he began attending Christian services in the House of Representatives.

The apparently academic debate about Jefferson's thinking may have more general repercussions because the religious right is renewing its campaign to break down the barriers erected by the courts against public religion.

Last week the House of Representatives voted on a motion to amend the constitution to allow organised prayer in state schools; it failed to garner the necessary two-thirds majority required for a constitutional amendment, but the fact that the motion was put at all shows the willingness of the Republican leadership to accommodate the Christian right.

The discoveries do not shed much light on Jefferson's religious views, but they reveal, according to

the scientists discovered that Jefferson had significantly toned down his language during the letter's drafting. Originally, he wrote of an "eternal separation" between Church and state, but then deleted "eternal".

He also removed several phrases which implied his right to proclaim thanksgiving celebrations because, as he wrote in a separate note, they "might give uneasiness to some of our republican friends in the eastern states".

If he had not deleted these phrases, he would have appeared to be claiming for himself, as president, some of the religious powers enjoyed by the English monarch, who was also head of the Church.

Because Jefferson was sometimes accused of atheism, this would have worsened the country's strong religious beliefs, particularly those in New England, or the "eastern states" to which he referred. For this reason, it appears, he was undermining the importance of the separation of Church and state.

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## Berlusconi party 'linked to Mafia bombings'

Philip Willan in Rome

**A**FRESH investigation is to target the political sponsors of a Mafia bombing campaign, for which a Florence court convicted 24 mafiosi over the weekend.

Investigators are hunting for the instigators of the terror campaign "in the political and professional circles that were soon to give birth to Forza Italia" — Silvio Berlusconi's centrist political party, founded in November 1993 — according to the leftwing newspaper L'Unità.

On Saturday a Florence court jailed two dozen mafiosi and gave life sentences to 14 of them, including Bernardo Provenzano, a veteran Mafia chieftain who has evaded capture for decades and is believed to be the head of Cosa Nostra.

The mafiosi were convicted of waging a campaign of terror against the Italian state in which 10 people were killed and 93 injured, and Italy's artistic heritage suffered severe damage. The bombings began in May 1993 with an unsuccessful car bomb attack on Maurizio Costanzo, a television personality who had spoken out against the Mafia.

Later that month came bombings in Florence, Rome and Milan. The attacks caused a media sensation because the Mafia had targeted some of Italy's best-known cultural landmarks, the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, two ancient churches in Rome and Milan's museum of modern art.

The campaign continued the following year with an unsuccessful attempt to blow up a Mafia supergrass and a failed bomb attack outside a Rome football stadium.

"It's very important that the sentence recognises the subversive purpose of the attacks," said Danilo Ammannato, a lawyer for the victims. "It means the true brains behind the strategy have still to be discovered. It provides us with a starting point."

Salvatore "Totò" Riina, who was arrested shortly before the terror campaign began, and the Mafia boss Giuseppe Graviano are suspects in the second investigation into the bombings. In their summing up to the jury, the prosecutors described the bombings as "not just a criminal affair, but a criminal page in the history of this country".

According to the Palermo public prosecutor Guido Jo

Forza, the bombings amounted to a subversive campaign to destabilise the political order and marked a radical departure from Cosa Nostra's traditions.

Mr Jo Forte explained the apparent paradox in an interview published yesterday in the Milan daily Corriere della Sera. He said Mr Riina had told his followers: "We must make war so that we can then dictate the peace."

Cosa Nostra, the paper said, after the collapse of its links with Giulio Andreotti's Christian Democrat faction and a brief flirtation with the Italian Socialist Party, was looking for new allies.

A number of former mafiosi have reportedly told magistrates of contacts between Forza Italia and Cosa Nostra in the run-up to Mr Berlusconi's remarkable election victory in March 1994.

The Florence prosecutors also revealed that two letters threatening further attacks had been sent to newspapers on the day of the Rome and Milan bombings, but had not been adequately evaluated at the time. The letters said the attacks were intended to kill "We guarantee the victims will be counted in the hundreds."

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Brooklyn jail riot, broke down as he was led away. He admitted walking into a social club in December 1996 and shooting three men, two of whom died. He then stabbed a woman to death when he ran out of bullets.

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The Guardian Monday June 8 1998

**Tensions between South Asia's two new nuclear powers rose another notch after Islamabad accused New Delhi of being behind the Sindh rail bomb. The standoff now looks certain to worsen, with Kashmir the next likely flashpoint**



A soldier watches Indian troops from Chakoti on the Pakistani-held side of the Kashmir frontline. Gunfire is exchanged daily along the 500-mile zone where 400,000 troops face each other. PHOTOGRAPH BY S. K. BANSHAW

# Train blast fuels war of words

Suzanne Goldenberg  
South Asia Correspondent

**P**AKISTAN yesterday accused India of planting the bomb on a train that killed more than 20 people.

A minister in Islamabad said it was an act of "state terrorism" intended to punish Pakistan for its nuclear tests. Reports said up to 26 people were killed and 45 injured when a bomb exploded on the Khyber Mail near Khairpur in the southern province of Sindh yesterday morning.

The train runs from Karachi on the Arabian Sea to Peshawar near Pakistan's frontier with Afghanistan. The Pakistani Information Minister, Mushahid Hussain Syed, claimed the blast bore the hallmarks of India's Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) spymasters.

India and Pakistan regularly trade accusations about their intelligence services in what, for both sides, has become a ritual response to acts of terror. But Mr Hussain used unusually strung language, forgoing euphemisms — of "anti-Pakistan elements" or "the foreign hand" — to blame New Delhi.

He also linked yesterday's bomb in the war of words since the nuclear tests, especially over the disputed territory of Kashmir, and the ambitions of India's ruling Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). "Pakistan strongly con-

demns the act of terrorism which was carried out today, the threat posed by India's nuclear tests, and the BJP's threats on Kashmir," Mr Hussain said. "The hardline elements of the Hindu establishment are fomenting state terrorism through RAW, aimed at destabilising Pakistan."

"We feel they are trying to put pressure on Pakistan after it restored the balance with its nuclear tests," he told state-controlled Pakistan television that the train explosion was caused by a timer device similar to one recovered from a Lahore cinema where three people were killed in a blast on Friday.

But police in Khairpur said the methods were similar to those deployed by Sindh separatists. An Indian foreign official almost immediately dismissed Mr Hussain's comments as baseless. But they are certain to add to the rivalry between the two countries and fuel fears of a nuclear arms race.

# Eritreans' joy turns to fear as they await revenge

Each blames the other for starting the bombing raids. Each says the targets were civilians not the military. The truth may be hard to discern but what is certain is that more lives are at stake, writes David Hirst in Asmara



Eritreans display wreckage from an Ethiopian MIG shot down after it attacked Asmara airport on Saturday. Above left, the mother and sister of a three-year-old killed during Eritrea's bombing raid on Mekele grieve with other relatives at the funeral. PHOTOGRAPHS: SAM SALLUEN (left) and CORANNE DUFFA

**T**HE churches, lush public gardens and shaded, Italianate boulevards of Eritrea's sun-drenched highland capital were quieter than on a normal Sunday afternoon.

The jubilation that greeted the shooting down of an Ethiopian MIG fighter on Saturday and the capture of its pilot has given way to the sobering fear that further air raids are coming and are likely to be directed at civilian targets.

On Saturday Ethiopia announced it would suspend air raids for 13 hours to allow foreign nationals to be evacuated. A hectic night at Asmara airport saw the departure of about 1,500 people, including 41 Britons, on a dozen planes. Most diplomats have gone with them, either closing their embassies or leaving behind a skeleton staff.

The ceasefire ended yesterday morning. International mediation continued, notably the shuttle diplomacy of the United States under-secretary of state for African affairs, but has yet to yield a breakthrough.

The Eritreans appear to be balking mainly at one aspect of the four-point US plan, which calls on them to withdraw from territory at Be-dame — the main area of dispute. At a press conference on Saturday the president, Isaiyas Afewerki, said he did not yet see much light at the end of the tunnel.

What, in the midst of this deadlock, worries the Asmarans is the Ethiopian interpretation of the air war. They say Eritrea began it on Friday with an air raid on Mekele, the capital of Tigray province, and that the "savage act", in which some 40 civilians died, was designed to "spread terror".

Ethiopia was then retaliating when it struck the military wing of Asmara airport. Eritreans claim — and the facts support them — that Ethiopia struck first and deliberately targeted the civilian, not military, wing of the airport.

The Eritreans add, unofficially, that their retaliatory attack on Mekele targeted the military airport from which Ethiopia's MIGs took off and that the slaughter of civilians was an unfortunate mistake. Their version is all the more plausible because, given Ethiopia's vastly superior air power, Eritrea has no interest in provoking an air war.

## Tehran mayor attacks court in corruption trial

Julian Borger  
Middle East Correspondent

**T**HE trial of Tehran's mayor for corruption started controversially yesterday in a case which is believed to reflect a power struggle in the Iranian government.

Gholamhossein Karbaschi, who has run the Iranian capital for the past nine years, went on the offensive, denouncing the accusations as fabrications and challenging the court's right to try him. "I don't accept any of the charges. They are all lies. But even before that, I maintain the argument that the court is not competent to handle the case," he told a packed courtroom at the Imam Khomeini judicial complex in Tehran.

The judge, Gholamhossein Mohseni-Ejazi, said he regretted having to try a senior manager but warned: "No one is above the law."

Mr Karbaschi, aged 45, is accused of embezzling more than \$3 million, receiving bribes and mismanaging public property. His supporters claim that Islamic ultra-conservatives within the government and the judiciary are victimising him for backing reforms championed by President Mohammed Khatami.

The mayor's surprise arrest in April triggered demonstrations which threatened to transform Iran's tense political rivalry into street battles between pro-reform students and Revolutionary Guards.

Mr Karbaschi has been a hate-figure among hardliners since he backed Mr Khatami against a conservative opponent in May 1997 elections. The start of the trial, adjourned yesterday until Thursday, is a victory for the conservatives. Diplomats in Tehran

had predicted that President Khatami's supporters would attempt to have the case postponed indefinitely. The president's supporters fear that Mr Karbaschi's fall could pave the way for a wider assault on Mr Khatami's reforms, which are intended to dilute the role of Shi'ite clerics in government. Last week Brigadier-General Yahya Rahim Safavi, head of the Revolutionary Guards, said his forces were hiding their time before moving against a "third group" of dissidents who had taken advantage of the Khatami thaw to plot against the Islamic republic.

"The Guards... have identified many of the elements of these groups... They have left them free to set up their groups and newspapers but we will go after them when the time is ripe," Gen Safavi told the daily Hamshahri newspaper.

## Time is frozen on the Kashmir frontline

**Suzanne Goldenberg visits Chakoti, in the disputed state, where each side knows the enemy like a brother, nerves fray and familiarity breeds contempt**

**T**WELVE steel helmets; 12 sets of binoculars; and two lowly soldiers in a pit, dutifully pointing a machine-gun towards an Indian position a mile away: this is Chakoti, in Pakistani-held Azad ("Free") Kashmir, where the Pakistani army keeps watch on an enemy.

But the freshly white-washed bunker, barbed wire glinting after an afternoon shower, also doubles as a pulpit for preaching the gospel on Kashmir according to the Pakistani army.

Islamabad is always trying to attract international attention to Kashmir — infuriating New Delhi, which would rather keep the dispute a private affair between neighbours. The arrival of 52 foreign journalists at Pakistan's forward position along the line of control seems a god-send. Eager not to disappoint those expecting dan-

ger, Brigadier Haider Khan calls out, "Watch for snipers," as the journalists file through a sandbag corridor. It opens out to offer a spectacular view of wooded hills, with Indian positions discernible through field glasses.

India and Pakistan have fought two of their three wars over Kashmir, making the disputed territory the most likely flashpoint for another war — with the prospect it could involve nuclear weapons. "Both armies are sitting eyeball-to-eyeball so there are no nukes in this area," Brig Khan says. "If the Indians want us, they are going to have to come into this area and get us."

Deputy General Secretary Election Modern and Best Policy in Dispute





## e-mail

Katharine Viner  
@Beirut

We were lying on the beach when we read about the public hangings; sipping Almaz at the Long Beach Club, where you pay \$300 a summer to lie on concrete and swim in the pool. We were gazing along the Corniche at the palm trees and the women in bikinis, bangles and full make-up, lamenting a lost age.

Two men, Wissam Issa, 25, and Hassan Abu Jabal, 24, were hanged at 5am in Tabarja town square, north of Beirut, a place you drive past on the way to the nightclubs of Jounieh: 1500 people turned up to watch, but the hangmen, who wore white cloaks and pointed hats, were out of practice. The hanged platform beneath the men's feet didn't drop properly and Issa, who had fainted with fear, had to be pushed off the scaffold.

The dead were left swinging for an hour. The papers printed their broken-neck pictures wearing sweat-tops, jeans and trainers, they looked like kids. Their crime was unpremeditated murder: they were robbing a house when the owners came home and Issa, alarmed, shot them both. Abu Jabal ran off with \$500 and jewellery; he didn't even fire a gun.

The President, Elias Hrawi, personally signed the death warrants, adding to the quarter of a million bodies of 16 years of civil war. This is a bewildering truth for many in Lebanon who saw him as a moderniser; just two months ago, he was campaigning for civil marriage, an enlightened move to allow marriages between religions — currently forbidden unless one partner converts to the faith of the other.

The campaign has been popular, particularly among women and the young; you even see ads saying "Mendocesa Jeans: Yes for Civil Marriage" in the Bekaa Valley. Many think that Hrawi is sending two young men to the public gallows makes his rhetoric about a civil society look like a sick joke.

BEIRUTIS are furious: they want to look forward, not back to their notorious war. They've had eight years of peace and find it hard to reconcile their cellphones, Baskin Robbins ice-cream and the world's biggest city centre redevelopment project — \$400 million of glamorous hotels, beach clubs and marinas — with the town-square hangings.

Lebanon has always seen itself as the most European of Arab countries; now it's groped with China, Nigeria and Saudi Arabia as a country which executes its own citizens in public. Company director Jerir Abu-Shaleeh expressed the views of many. "Does a world tourist centre perform public executions?" he wrote in the English-language Daily Star. "The sound of the men's gasps as the rope snapped tight will echo as one of the most blood-thirsty moments in Lebanon's history — including the war."

Having rearranged the deckchairs, it's time to settle down for a good read...



## We're poor, shabby and unhealthy so we should pay more taxes

Polly Toynbee



THERE is only one show in town, and the grand opening comes next month with the Comprehensive Spending Review. Then we shall know considerably more about what kind of government this is. To govern well is to tax and spend well.

The tidal waves and tiny ripples of public spending spread far and wide. Everyone is affected by the public purse. Last week I listened to an impromptu impassioned plea for spending on the arts, as moving and articulate as you could find. The recent director of the Greenwich Theatre, Matthew Francis, was just one of those ripples that never reach anywhere near the Chancellor's mighty desk.

His distinguished theatre, the only one in a huge swathe of south-east London, has just closed. The London Arts Board, facing cuts, let the axe fall on Greenwich and now the theatre is dark and unused. Yet it lies beneath the shadow of the Dome. What would it cost to keep going? A mere £200,000 a year, the rest it earned for itself. Now it doesn't mean the Dome shouldn't be built, but how do you compare the worth of these two?

I don't know how much the Chancellor sees with his own eyes. But walking rectitude to please City ears, yet to bring smiles to as many expectant faces as possible. He wants both sets of headlines, tailored for their respective readerships. Of course he does.

He can manage the trick a while longer, as he did at the last budget with tax increases so clever only those who understand the finances of private pensions realise he has taken money from the

teams of heart surgeons who don't kill babies? Poor pensioners or underground trains? I was burgled on Friday night, no chance of catching the culprit who took my contact book with a lifetime's invaluable phone numbers: the policeman said there's a backlog months long in processing fingerprints.

By even asking the question, the Chancellor has opened a snake-bait because, of course, there are no sensible answers. All he can do is demand the money is spent well wherever it's spent, which is only a slightly easier matter. He doesn't start with blank paper but with a history of priorities, expectations, myriad powerful lobbies.

Last week we saw the Iron Chancellor's fist hammering out his golden rule — no current spending unless it's covered by current tax revenue, spread over the economic cycle. He may sit up to his neck in gold now, but he warns that the money's needed when the economy turns down. He is shaking his mailed gauntlet at the last desperate bids of spending ministers. What would you expect him to do but talk prudence at this point?

The Chancellor will try to pull off the magic trick — talking rectitude to please City ears, yet to bring smiles to as many expectant faces as possible. He wants both sets of headlines, tailored for their respective readerships. Of course he does.

He can manage the trick a while longer, as he did at the last budget with tax increases so clever only those who understand the finances of private pensions realise he has taken money from the

with the will to work can always pull themselves up by the bootstraps.

The choice of metaphorical footwear is important. It is a basic Victorian error which prejudices so much government policy. For the first time since the second world war, ministers make a distinction between the deserving and the undeserving poor. Whatever our backgrounds, we can all — if we really try — rise to a point in society in which we can afford to invest in a pen-

Progress through life depends on a fair start as well as an open road

sion which keeps us comfortable in old age. The idea that children who go hungry to school are disinclined to learn has never crossed the government's collective mind. Nor have ministers ever pondered why Old Britons rarely steal cars

better off. He has produced some clever but devious rules of his own to prove his prudence, with his largely artificial line between what he calls "capital spending" for "investment" for which borrowing is OK, and "current spending" which must never exceed income from taxation. It shows that he has left much unexplored territory in his apparently golden rule.

He alone decides what is good investment spending and what is bad spending, and it's not just a matter of bricks and mortar versus wages. So his policy brief that spending to put the unemployed to work is good investment, even where it may cost more indefinitely. The Iron begins to melt a little on close inspection.

EVEN more important, gone is the old rightwing mantra that we must keep spending below 40 per cent of GDP. So long as all the spending is "good" then the total doesn't matter. They stress that the Chancellor has never mentioned an overall spending target, which means he could still raise taxes significantly if he wants.

After all, Germany's public spending is 45 per cent of GDP and France's is 50 per cent. While their economies motor far ahead of ours, it may well be that our low spending holds us back.

But raising public spending in devious secretive ways can't be done for long. Take Private Finance Initiatives, about which there is growing concern, especially in the NHS, strongly expressed by the doctors at their recent conference. It is an expensive accounting trick, where current public spending on new hospi-

itals is removed from the books, only to add a far greater burden of debt for our children, a debt they will not be able to control as it will be in private hands, inflated by the need to make profits — neither prudent nor honest.

No, in the end, New Labour will have to come clean about spending. They are in danger of failing to gauge the magnitude of the change in public mood they themselves have created with their powerful talk of inclusiveness, citizenship and community. People now expect the tangle of results of those ideas in the public services they use.

Thatcherism really is vanquished in the public mind — yet it lingers on in Labour's more fearful thoughts. For there is nothing more communitarian we do in life than to pay our taxes. People know what is blindingly obvious: we can't have significantly better schools, hospitals and transport to meet the rising standards of the rest of our quality of life without paying for it. Juggling between "capital" and "current" will only take the Chancellor so far.

The Spending Review will no doubt find some cuts — but not many. To be sure we and France still spend much more than the rest of Europe on defence, twice what the Germans spend, but even deep cuts there are peanuts.

Nothing will save the government from having to bite the real bullet: taxes must rise or public services and the lives of the poor will continue to decline. Cool or not, we remain a shabby, poverty-stricken, under-educated and unhealthy nation because we are grossly under-taxed.

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## Time for the New Tories

Peter Preston



JUST a few little words and the difference they portend. "We must fight to make the Scottish parliament a success." One moment the Tories are fearful about the Assembly, prisoners of their own accumulated rhetoric — and the next they are free, dedicated to the coming elections and to helping devolution work. The Leader has spoken.

The weekend words of Young William carry two quite separate resonances. The first is (mostly) for Scotland. It makes the Tories part of the Scottish equation again. If they can get upwards of 15 per cent of the Assembly vote next year, then PR will give them a hand and cards to play in Edinburgh. That's crucial.

A devolved nation which is also a Conservative nation needs policy options beyond the Salsmond/Dewar nexus. A nation which chooses to remain within the United Kingdom — if it does — will need a Conservative and Unionist Party in the mix.

The second resonance is much wider. Simply: there was contention and a referendum. The Tories lost. Did they stumpy refuse to hear the verdict of the people? No, they snapped to attention. They accepted the result, turned turtle, moved on. And if they can do that on devolution, what about Europe? Will Slightly Older William be mouthing a few more little words in 2003?

Events, as they do, sharpen those questions. Mr Hague has not prospered in the polls since he set his face against monetary union. On the contrary, he has slid further towards the oblivion of peripheralisation. Who says Euroscepticism is a magic electoral wand? Not the voters: they, on the latest Guardian count, are beginning to shift towards the EMU camp. Who can tell where they'll be come the new millennium, used to dealing in euros day by day as they buy ice creams in Marbella or sell engine parts in Toulouse? And then there is Stephen Dorrell.

Mr Dorrell's departure from the Shadow Cabinet — "to write and think and speak his mind" — was a very small earthquake, even by current Conservative standards. He was the leadership contender who threw the towel in early. He was (the spin doctors said) an invisible spokesman on education. He jumped before he was pushed. So what?

So, on further and better examination, rather more than the Hague scolytes would have us believe, Dorrell is experienced, a notably talented Treasury minister, a health secretary on top of a complex brief. He's the same generation as Tony Blair, and just as "nice" when the sincerity tap's turned on. Nobody, looking at his party lineage, can doubt where he's coming from: the One Nation wing which ruled before the Thatcher clearances.

To that, though, he adds the capacity for original thought. He has a "hum" — the need "to ensure that the country rises to the challenge of the global market place and is willing to earn its place in that market". Ask? In for a few descants, and you get a symphony of facts and examples. He writes his own briefs, with a painfully wrinkled brow. Unlike Young William, who seems to learn and parrot them.

FATALLY damaged goods? Maybe. Dorrell was a notably bored and ineffectual heritage secretary. Perhaps there was some of that in his shadow education stint — though what do you say when David Blunkett, piece by piece, has nicked every policy you possessed? And there were one or two gaffes in the last months of John Major, when a prime minister immersed in coded complexities chose him to clarify the incoherently obscure, then skittered away from the outcome.

But time is a great healer when it comes to real or imagined gaffes. You don't need to think of Stephen Dorrell as a Winston Churchill in the wil-

derness, nor even as a Henna similarly exiled. You need only think of him as a serious, relatively young politician with a safe seat and an extended shelf life, capable of devising and delivering his own times. Then you think of 2003.

There will be a European referendum. If Hague and the No-men win, we're into fascinating territory. It would be the eventual death of the second Blair administration and the foundation of Conservative return. But what about the Yes, which Labour will feel confident about before they think of taking the voting gamble? Are we, in subsequent defeat, to think of the Leader who said No saving his neck with a handful of words?

THE day Dorrell quit the front bench he said a number of interesting things. "This is the first day of the rest of my life." "It is powerfully in Britain's interest for the single currency to be a success." "Labour is frightened, safe and reactive — while William has just been doing the housekeeping." In short: he's not going away, he's looking to a world beyond 2002, and he's an ideas man.

NONE of this makes Dorrell more than a politician to keep your eye on for a while. But it is the first stirring of future change. Clarke and Heseltine, the natural Tory champions of European realism, may — five years on — look what William would have them be now: the past, not the future. A Conservative Party which has to turn again over Europe will be searching for a younger alternative. Maybe David Curry, but maybe Dorrell. If he develops a philosophy that sets Europe in a wider context.

Does this matter, so many years and unpredictable twists ahead? Absolutely. A position staked out thus affects thinking now: another factor in Hague's troubled mind. The



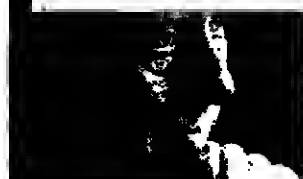
They assume the Tories, miraculous survivors, will be back around 2006

Leader knows that the year of "housekeeping" is over. "We've done our reorganising. Now we are going to do some attacking." The Jurassic Park socialists of the SNP and the Stalinist place-men of Labour duly got their Glasgow conference fumes on Saturday. "Let's stop fighting the battles of the past." But the great battle which brought to the party to its knees continues.

The final question on every Conservative's agenda can be brutally posed. Is this? Have we blown it for two decades, perhaps for ever? When you talk around, you find despair. But if you talk afterwards — by way of flight correction — to some of Labour's desperate strategists, there the mood (especially as interest rates rise and the economy wobbles) is far, far wrier. Two terms in office is the extremity of stated ambition. They assume that the Tories, the miraculous survivors of European politics over centuries, will be back with a shout around 2006. No wild assumption.

The Conservative Party matters because, on its record, it has always mattered. But what sort of party, under what sort of leader? Enter Wes Williams, a "fresh, open, involving listening" lot — the kind of lively minds who know the Eurostar from Thomas the Tank Engine. And now, with Dorrell on board, they also know they will have a choice beyond the buffers.

Roy Hattersley



I AM beginning to wonder if I have misjudged New Labour. Ever since the party began to establish an independent identity — certainly not socialist, rarely radical and barely progressive — I have attributed its shortcomings to a severe ideology deficiency. Now I suspect that it suffers from failures of the intellect.

The idea came into my head the other day, when I heard the Prime Minister assert that he totally rejected "the deterministic view of politics". The deterministic view of politics was succinctly defined in 1976

by Michael Rutter and Nicola Madge, in their work *Cycles of Disadvantage*, done in the year 228B. But some ideas which were developed before John Smith's death remain self-evidently true. One of them is the proposition that "the existing framework of society shapes the distribution of wealth and job opportunities".

If you have any doubts, read the National Children's Bureau's study of "the abilities and attainments, behaviour, physical development, health, home environment and family history" of 16,000 children born during the first week of March, 1958.

Last Thursday, as I listened to television arguments about retirement pensions, I offered a silent bet on which of those now 40-year-old adults are likely, in old age, to survive on 10 per cent of average earnings. It will be those who, in childhood, the National Children's Bureau described as "born to fail".

Yet Harriet Harman had a clear and confident view of how responsibility for a comfortable old age should be di-

vided between the individual and the state. We are moving into the era of personal provision. It is the people's "responsibility to pay into the system" and the government's "responsibility to make sure that when they pay in, they get value for money". It was left to Ann Robinson — not the winking television personality, but the director of the National Association of Pension Funds (and, heaven help us, sometime head of policy at the Institute of Directors) to raise questions about families who are too poor to invest and suggest that the state might have to insist on some "redistribution" between contribution and benefits. It is a mad, mad world, my masters.

I do not blame Ms Harman for missing the poverty point. Even if she understood it, she cannot be held responsible for the government's constant failure to meet the needs of the families below the poverty line. The crucial decisions have been taken out of her hands. Tony Blair and Gordon Brown — whatever their other differences — are united by the heroic delusion that people

with the will to work can always pull themselves up by the bootstraps.

The choice of metaphorical footwear is important. It is a basic Victorian error which prejudices so much government policy. For the first time since the second world war, ministers make a distinction between the deserving and the undeserving poor. Whatever our backgrounds, we can all — if we really try — rise to a point in society in which we can afford to invest in a pen-

Progress through life depends on a fair start as well as an open road

sion which keeps us comfortable in old age.

The idea that children who go hungry to school are disinclined to learn has never crossed the government's collective mind. Nor have ministers ever pondered why Old Britons rarely steal cars



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## Tutorial for New Labour

### Poor students will be hit

TODAY New Labour MPs have a chance to join with Old Labour members to remind ministers of a principle which both wings endorse: equality of opportunity. Yet today Labour is about to push through a Bill which will seriously reduce opportunities for children from low-income families. Children from poor households have always suffered multiple handicaps. Compared to their middle-class contemporaries, they face a future in which they can expect to earn far less money, occupy much poorer housing, suffer far more serious ill health, and enjoy far less education. Of all these inequalities, education offers the most immediate opportunities for change. Four out of five children from professional homes now go on to higher education but, even though we have moved to a mass higher education system, only one out of five from semi-skilled workers' homes and fewer than one in 10 from unskilled workers' families. The proposals in the higher education bill, which completes its parliamentary

passage today, will reduce it even further. Much of the debate has been diverted by the bill's introduction of tuition fees. Requiring students to pay a contribution towards tuition costs was right for the reasons that the Dearing Committee set out last year: ensuring students repay some of the benefits they have received. Student leaders have been right to press ministers for stronger guarantees that the current proposal — a fee equivalent to one quarter of the average cost — is not the first of a series of steps transferring all tuition costs from taxpayers to students. But in an era of mass higher education — and a reluctance by voters to support higher taxation — asking students to make a 25 per cent contribution in tuition that will raise their earnings by about 25 per cent is fair. We support the principle as long as ministers ensure the extra money raised is invested in higher education. The money is desperately needed by universities, which have seen a 40 per cent reduction in spending per student over the last decade. Without extra investment, standards will be seriously eroded.

Where we disagree with the Government is over its proposals for students from poor families. They will be exempted from the £1,000 tuition fees but lose their current

maintenance support. The grants only cover half the cost of maintenance, which means the typical poor student ends up owing £5,000 in student loans at the end of a three-year degree. Under Labour's proposals these students will now face a £10,000 debt. Labour ministers are right when they insist the current evidence on the effects of its proposals is ambivalent. So far school leavers show little sign of being deterred but it is still early days and there is already a worrying decline in the number of mature applicants. Labour is meant to be promoting the concept of life-long learning. Commonsense dictates that doubling debt will deter applicants. Ministers can huff and puff, but they should talk to their new business friends. Price matters. The CBI, eager to raise British skills, dislikes the plan. If poor John falls for low-income Jane, they will jointly face £20,000 of debt before they even begin to think of a mortgage. Labour's proposed loan system is a huge advance on the current system but the package narrows, rather than widens, opportunities.

No one should expect the Government to be diverted from its path at this late stage. To its shame, the Labour conference endorsed the package. But the rebels within Labour's New and Old camps should speak

out. Reducing equality of opportunity is a breach of principle which deserves the loudest of protests.

## On the hoof

### Korea's bovine diplomacy

AFTER PINGPONG diplomacy, now comes bovine diplomacy. Tomorrow the impenetrable Demilitarised Zone between North and South Korea, where so many confrontations have occurred in the past, is scheduled to see a more positive raising of dust when 500 head of cattle are driven over to Pyongyang's side.

The herd is part of a larger donation from Chung Ju-yung, head of the South Korean Hyundai Group (in whose trucks they will presumably cross the DMZ). Mr Chung has got into trouble in the past for visiting the North the long way round via Beijing without a single beaver to accompany him. There is no problem at all now that the South is under the new management of President Kim Dae-jung. Mr Kim is anxious to ease the North towards a soft landing from the economic and political crisis of Kim Il-sungism. He has just started a visit to Washington where he will send a strong

signal to Pyongyang by indicating his support for the lifting of US trade sanctions against the North.

Not every international flashpoint may respond so positively to this approach. The art in these matters lies in finding the right way of sending the message and making sure that both sides gain from it. The Chinese choice of pingpong in 1971, which paved the way for Richard Nixon, was brilliant: first, because it seemed like such a sporting gesture to the Americans, and second, because Beijing knew that its national team would still wipe the board. More recently, a US wrestling team played the role of people's diplomats in Tehran. That was also well-judged: wrestling is a good metaphor for the protracted struggle in which the US and Iran have been engaged for two decades; the moral is that even the longest bout must come to an end.

Bovine diplomacy is also based on sound observation. Last autumn Pyongyang's "great leader" Kim Jong-il visited a cattle ranch and gave, in his usual manner, "on-the-spot guidance" on matters which included the nurture of calves and the planting of acacia trees to provide suitable shade. He is clearly into cattle; other gifts from the South might arouse his suspicion, but he will not regard this one as a Trojan Cow.

## Letters to the Editor

### What does it mean to be English?

DECCA Aitkenhead's witty and perceptive piece on English identity raises basic social and political questions (I hope the English live in the World Cup, because I don't like them, June 5).

As she implies, the English have long possessed characteristics about which they could be proud: the engineering skills which are held to those which built the ships and railways in the 19th century; professionalism (in medicine, education, the arts); cultural innovation; community solidarity; pluralism and cosmopolitanism. But it has been precisely these qualities which have been subject to government attention from 1979.

Tom Selwyn, London.

London is that I am partly French and nobody insists I have to be particularly anything. Nobody has forced me to recognise St George's day. Encouraging a greater sense of "English identity" is likely to make life a lot less comfortable for the many minorities who live here. Indulging what remains of the English working class over their obsessive, and occasionally violent, attachment to the World Cup may be a small price to pay.

Simon Partridge, London.

THEIR is much that is hard to swallow in contemporary England, not least the curious phenomenon that our country is crisscrossed full of people who have chosen to live here, but can't stop belly-aching how awful it all is.

Steve Walton, Brighton.

THE truth is the English were too busy trying to deprive other countries of their cultures to notice they didn't have one of their own. Much like their friends in the north of my country, whose culture consists of marching down a road in a silly hat abusing Catholics, the English mistake xenophobia for a national identity. Come on Tunisia. David Murphy, London.

NOT think the working class can take all the credit for Morris dancing (Brit rural). My cultural identity is more Beatles, Northern Soul, Stone Roses, New Order, Oasis, Verve, etc. Often copied, never bettered, let's face it, English working-class culture influences the world. Ms Aitkenhead ignores the English working class's greatest cultural gift. Come July, whoever's celebrating winning the World Cup, I hope they remember who started it all.

Michael Lynch, Brighton.

AT the last census a quarter of the population of Wales, nearly 20 per cent of the population of Scotland and 16 per cent of the population of Scotland lived in England. While London was easily the most cosmopolitan city in Europe.

One reason I like living in

their dubious dress sense, their excessive drinking, their fifth-rate literature, their constant whining while grasping at subsidies, and, above all, their rubbish football team. Leo McKinty, Essex.

HERE'S hoping for a Ronaldinho hat-trick and at least two goal-kicking free-kicks from Roberto Carlos on Wednesday to give it to those smug, self-pitying, mewling jocks where it hurts. Yah boo sucks. Nick Rider, London.

AS A Belfast-born Anglophile, I was disgusted by Decca Aitkenhead's attack on the English. She would be out of her mind if her comments were applied to any other nationality or race. I can just imagine her howls of protest if someone wrote about the "unlike-ability" of the Scots, with

Welsh Affairs report (A Competitive Edge) found that Welsh-medium secondary schools in English-speaking South Wales score better than their English-medium equivalents on every measure, including the ratings for teaching English and modern languages.

Unlike Spanish, of course, Welsh is not a world language. But applied with conviction, bilingual education could serve the US melting pot as effectively as it does the emerging regions of Europe.

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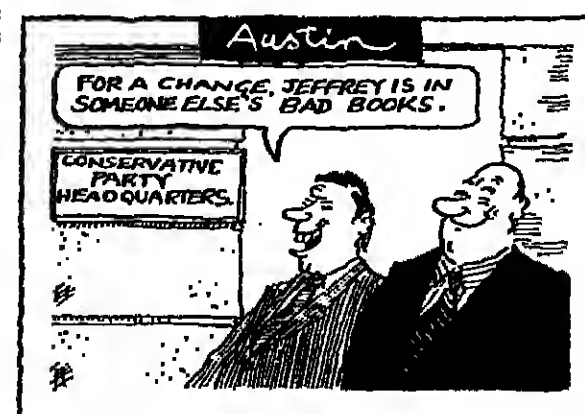
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## Straw defends liberties record

RICHARD Norton-Taylor (Kafka lives in the EU, June 4) plumbs new depths of paranoia. Given the scale of the problem of organised crime and international terrorism, we have to co-operate with other EU countries and to extend that co-operation to central and eastern Europe and beyond. Organised crime is a global threat. There is nothing secret or sinister about what we are doing. I make formal reports to Parliament about proceedings in the Justice and Home Affairs councils and my officials regularly brief the media.

So what are these so-called "unacceptable threats to civil liberties"? At the meeting of the EU's justice and home affairs ministers which I chaired last week, we held an open debate to which members of the public and the media were invited on the subject of organised crime. There are no "unaccountable committees"; preparatory work by officials is very clearly under the authority of the Council of Ministers. When the European Convention comes into force later this year a range of accountability mechanisms — to the Council, to national courts, to an independent data protection authority — will apply to the new organisation.

As for the complaint that matters are "nodded through", this Council works by unanimity, so it has to distinguish between items on which all member states are agreed ("A points") and others on which a discussion is needed. All items are subject to very careful consideration for months and to many cases for years.

Jack Straw, Home Secretary.

It is easy to make libes about the jargon of any organisation. "K4" is — very prosaically — the article in the treaty which provides for a co-ordinating committee of senior officials. And what better name for a funding programme for action against organised crime than "Falcone" — commemorating a brave Italian judge callously murdered by the Mafia?

I am satisfied that the measures we have agreed during the UK Presidency — including the Falcone programme, a new judicial network and the pre-accession pact with the countries of central and eastern Europe and Cyprus — have made a real contribution to protecting our citizens, without in any way endangering their liberties.

Jack Straw, Home Secretary.

## TV missionary

JOHN Birt's achievements as a television evangelist are legion but they do not include coining the phrase "mission to explain", as Matthew Engel asserts (News from nowhere, June 6). The words were first used by Peter Jay at a public meeting in Croydon in 1990 when, as chairman of TV-am, he was pitching for ITV's new breakfast franchise. Five years earlier Jay and Birt had jointly written some articles for the Times, advocating a fresh approach to TV news that would place a higher priority on interpreting issues than on dramatic visual images; but the words "mission to explain" were not in them.

Michael Leapman, London.

## Welsh lesson

YOU are right: Americans would benefit from having a growing number of bilingual youngsters (Leader, June 4). But language planning in education needs real commitment and high-quality teaching. If young Hispanic-Americans have fallen between two linguistic stools, it is probably inadequate funding and a lack of conviction that are to blame.

In the week that Californians ended their 30-year experiment, an Institute of

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## Grant aid

YOU were wrong to imply Labour left in grants revolt (June 5) that the Labour rebels who will vote against the Government's plans to abolish student grants and introduce tuition fees in higher education will be "on the same side as the Tories".

The Labour rebels will be on the side of students, lecturers and all those who want access to higher education to be open to all, regardless of background or income. The Tories on the other hand, are

responsible for creating the current funding crisis to higher education and beginning the attacks on students' living standards. That places them on the side of the Government, regardless of the tactics that will lead them to vote against the higher education bill this week.

Carolynne Calver, National executive committee, National Union of Students.

## Put a sock in it



IN A WEEK of peculiar stories there was nothing last week to touch the case of two gay lovers from Southampton who enticed 15,000 people into partying with pairs of socks. "They were everywhere and anywhere," Det Sgt John Belger said of these socks, describing how he had to step through an 18-inch carpet of socks into the two men's flat. "They were all

over the furniture, hanging from lampshades and even in the microwave, frying pan and toaster. It was like there had been an explosion in a sock factory and socks had blown all over the place."

What this did for the men is clear enough: Judge David Maddison jailed them for 18 months, what it did for the image of socks is another matter. The circumstances may not have been preposterous, but it must be good news for the hosiery industry that somebody, somewhere, finds socks exciting. Shoes and feet, certainly; stockings also (in olden days, a glimpse of stockings was looked on as something shocking); but never before, in my recollection, socks. I had hoped to check the literature for previous evidence of socks as a fetish, but there doesn't seem to be any. The London Library catalogue offers a history of hosiery, but someone has taken it out. Historians of

fashion largely ignore them. They have page after page on the furrow, the cotter, the garter, but barely a line on the sock. True, I did find a picture in an old book on costume of a Saxon wearing his sock or socca, outside his stocking but inside his shoe. He was thuggish and unpossessing, however, adding little allure to the product.

By its nature the average sock is condemned to a life of obscurity. It is worn by a man in trousers, which means it spends most of its life half concealed by his trousers and half by his shoes. Because they're on show, trousers and shoes have evolved through various stages of fashion, but socks, being largely concealed, are much as they've always been. Except that they're shorter. Where they used to climb up the calf and be held in place by some device like a garter, most of them nowadays rise only inches above the shoe. What

holds them in place is either elastic, which constricts and leaves patterns on legs at bedtime, or faith, in which case they crinkle around the ankle. But even in an erotic age, their sex appeal remains minimal. The Wonderbra, yes; the Wondersock, never.

FAMOUS shoe collectors are legion: Imelda Marcos of course, but also, I seem to remember, Jackie Kennedy. Apart from the Southport Two, however, I have never heard of collectors of socks. Even more striking is the absence of socks from poetry, where feet and shoes abound. You have only to substitute "sock" in a poem under review to see why this has occurred.

And did those feet, in ancient time, walk upon England's mountains green? Blake inquires. If they did, it's a pretty sure bet that they weren't wearing socks.

Her feet beneath her petti-

coat, Sir John Suckling exults, like little mice, stole in and out, as if they feared the light. No suggestion of socks there, either.

The same goes for shoes. Slowly, silently, now the Moon walks the night in her silver shoes (Voltaire de la Mare). For a sock to intrude would be bathos. Readers may wish to point out that Milton, when he wrote "Allergo, put a sock in it: Then to the well-trod stage anon, If Jonson's learned sock be on, Or sweetest Shakespeare, Fancy's child, Wilt wear his native wood-notes wild."

This only confirms my thesis. The sock of which Milton wrote was a kind of low shoe worn by actors involved in the kind of comedies written by Jonson. To catch the eye of a poet, a sock needs to be a shoe. Socks do better in politics. Ian Paisley calls the Pope "Old

Red Socks". Dennis Skinner's socks have given harmless pleasure to generations of parliamentary sketchwriters since their repertoire has a vividness which the rest of his uniform lacks. The explanation here, I suspect, is that since politicians spend so much time sitting on benches, often with legs folded over each other, their socks are better displayed than those of the commonality — though they're all too often accompanied, it has to be said, by slices of pallid and pimply leg.

The other curious feature of the Southport affair is that on Det Sgt Belger's arithmetic, 10,000 pairs of used socks were found in the flat. Given the normal rate of divorce among pairs of socks, it was no mean achievement to keep them together — though it helps, perhaps, if you never wash them. And perhaps it can also be said of fetishists' socks that those that play together, stay together.

## Charmed circle set to benefit from fast Channel rail link

THERE is something John Prescott can do to resolve the Channel tunnel link funding problem (Prescott saves Channel link, June 4). In the integrated transport white paper the Government should signal its intention to act with its EU partners to remove the VAT exemption on aviation fuel. This would create a level playing field between rail and air, transforming revenue prospects and thus the attractions of the link to private funders. The environmental case for this is overwhelming. But £300m would also fund routes for "piggy-back" operation (road-truck bodies on rail cars) between the Channel tunnel and all UK urban centres. This would increase rail's market share of unutilised freight from 9 per cent to 32 per cent and remove 1.2 million trucks per year from British roads. This nationwide benefit is surely a more appropriate case for application of public funds than the marginal convenience of passengers from the London area.

Alan Wenban-Smith, Birmingham.

can get to the continent 15 minutes quicker.

The decision to site the station at Ebbsfleet came about after lobbying on behalf of the owners of the site, Blue Circle Industries. Blue Circle owns the Ebbsfleet Valley and large areas around it amounting to about 1,500 acres. Siting the international station at Ebbsfleet is providing the rationale for massive housing and industrial development on this land amounting to some 1,500 houses and 70,000 jobs. The land has been described as "brownfield" to justify this massive development but the majority is agricultural land and marshland. Ron Kipps, Dartford, Kent.

THE German rail crash might raise a few questions about the need for our own high-speed rail link. This will cut just half an hour off the present journey time. For this, whole communities will be shattered, the countryside ravaged. Hands up all those who would prefer to dawdle through the Kent countryside. Graham Seal, Penzance, Cornwall.

BEFORE anyone gets carried away about rail safety can I refer to the EU road death statistics? Across the EU in 1995 (the latest year available) 44,195 people were killed — 121 per day. David Reed, London.

## Afghan earthquake

### Help the survivors to stay alive

Oxfam needs your donation today to save lives in Afghanistan.

No-one can help the men, women, and children who were buried in their homes. But the survivors are homeless, frightened, and vulnerable.

They need clean water quickly to avoid the terrible threat of cholera. They need blankets and shelter urgently to protect them from the bitter nights.

Oxfam's first consignment of water tanks, plastic sheeting and blankets is already on its way to the disaster zone, and the survivors need more supplies immediately.

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# Everyman's Shakespeare

صبرنا من الامل











The Guardian Monday June 6 1995  
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Year	Unemployment rate		Total
	Less than 9 months	9 months or more	
1990	6.7	1.6	22
1991	8.3	2.1	22
1992	9.6	2.1	22
1993	10.3	2.1	22
1994	9.6	1.6	22
1995	8.3	1.6	22
1996	7.0	1.6	22
1997	5.7	1.6	22
1998	4.4	1.6	22

recovery starts, fewer  
 become unemployed, and  
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In the acclaimed 12-page sports section



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# The Guardian Sport

Monday June 5 1995 www.cricket95.co.uk

England v South Africa: first Cornhill Test, fourth day

## Stewart sets England on victory dash

**Mike Selvey sees brave batting and poor bowling give hope of a home win today**

**T**HE weather may have the final say on the result of the first Test at Edgbaston but some spirited English batting in a long final session yesterday — abetted by more powerful bowling from the most hyped opening attack in the world — has given England an outside chance of forcing a win, and at the very least the opportunity to finish on the high ground, while South Africa still have an interest, especially as England are a bowler short. It could be an intriguing last day.

South Africa were 192 for five overnight and England duly bowled them out, Dominic Cork finishing with five for 93 on his return to Test cricket, but not before a terrific eighth-wicket partnership of 104 between Jonty Rhodes and Lance Klusener, the highest of the innings, had rescued them from 234 for seven, 29 short of avoiding a possible follow-on. It helped them to 343.

Rhodes was finally out to Angus Fraser (one of four wickets for him and the 150th of his career), having batted 229 minutes for his 95, while Klusener, who became Mark Ealham's maiden first-class victim of the summer, hit 57 with 11 boundaries, as the depleted bowling wilted.

With a lead of 119 and four sessions remaining, a negative England might have considered the worst-case scenario and settled in to see what happened. England's response, therefore, was all the more heartening in its positive intent and practice, even if they pushed it to the extreme. At stumps they had reached 170 for eight, from 45 overs, giving them an overall lead of 229. When Mike Atherton reverse-sweeps in a Test match, then things really have changed.

So great was the pressure applied by the batting that Ealham-Cronje was compelled to fall back on that unappetising standby — much used by England in the past — of a left-arm spinner, in this case Paul Adams, bowling over the wicket and pitching the ball wide of leg stump. As Adams had conceded fewer than two

his aerobically pains in this match, both Woodward, South Africa's coach, was reduced to prowling the pavilion corridors behind the bowler's arm muttering to himself.

The final session was exhilarating, with Atherton beating his first ball off the back foot to the cover boundary to set the tone. Mark Butcher (11) and Nasser Hussain (10) were victims of questionable lbw verdicts. But Alec Stewart swung the bat with gusto for his 28, once hitting the benighted Pollock over mid-on. When he hit around a rare straight delivery from Donald and was howled, Graham Thorpe joined Atherton in a partnership of 68, of which the left-hander made 43 with five boundaries before he was yorked by Klusener's clever slower ball. He will be a key figure in countering Adams's wrist spin this summer.

Atherton, meanwhile, had caught the mood much as he had a year ago when England chased a target to beat Australia. He batted for almost three hours for his 43, but in the latter stages played with freedom and character. There is real enjoyment in his cricket at present.

When Atherton was bowled, making room to fiddle Donald to the offside, Mark Ramprakash might have been left to nurse the tail. But he drove his second ball to the extra-cover boundary and lofted Adams over long-on for six before a leading edge was adjudged by the third umpire to have been caught cleanly by Jacques Kallis diving forwards at extra cover.

Rhodes played perhaps his best innings for South Africa, having taken the initiative away from England on Saturday and, with Klusener's vigour in tandem, did so again after Fraser removed Pollock and Boucher. Only twice might he have faltered: on 64, when he hooked Cork to long leg, where Darren Gough's young substitute Ben Spence almost brought off a superb catch; and, on 86, he seemed to have edged Robert Croft to Stewart. But David Shepherd disagreed.

**High-flying ...** Dominic Cork leaps to make Allan Donald a caught-and-bowled victim as the returning paceman took five wickets for 93



### Scoreboard

**ENGLAND: First Innings 462 (M A Atherton 103, M A Butcher 71, Donald 4-56)**

**SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings**

G Klusener b Butcher	12
O F J Lubbe b Sub b Cork	3
J M Kallis b Stewart	64
D J Cullinan b Fraser	76
W J Groom b Sub b Cork	1
J M Kallis b Stewart	64
S M Pollock b Cork	15
S M Pollock b Stewart	15
L Klusener b Stewart	57
A A Donald c & b Cork	7
P B Adams not out	8
Extras (10, 10, 10)	30
<b>Total (117.3 overs)</b>	<b>343</b>
<b>Fall of wickets: 6, 30, 118, 125, 191, 211, 291, 320, 329</b>	
<b>Bowling: Fraser 34-6-103-4, Cork 32-5-74-5, Ealham 23-8-25-1, Croft 27-3-86-1, Butcher 11-3-2-0</b>	

**ENGLAND: Second Innings**

M A Butcher b Pollock	11
M A Atherton b Klusener	43
N Hussain b Donald	0
Y A J Stewart b Donald	43
G R Thorpe b Klusener	1
M R Ramprakash c Kallis b Adams	11
A Ealham c Pollock b Klusener	7
O O Cork b Boucher	8
O B Cork not out	24
Extras (10, 10, 10)	30
<b>Total (for 8, 45.1 overs)</b>	<b>170</b>
<b>Fall of wickets: 24, 31, 80, 145, 152, 167, 187, 170</b>	
<b>To bat: D Gough, A R C Fraser</b>	
<b>Bowling: Donald 10-1-48-2, Pollock 12-3-58-2, Klusener 11-4-27-3, Adams 12-1-3-0-2</b>	
<b>Umpires: D R Shepherd and R Tiffin</b>	

## Everton decide to throw Kendall overboard

lan Ross

**H**OWARD Kendall's relationship with Everton, an affair which has spanned more than three decades, will end today in acrimonious divorce. Kendall's third spell as manager will close either by mutual consent or, more likely, dismissal less than 12 months after it opened.

Having reached the conclusion that the 63-year-old Kendall is a constant reminder of a famous past rather than a man equipped to ensure a successful future, the club would like to replace him with Leicester's Martin O'Neill.

O'Neill is expected to announce within 24 hours if his dispute with Leicester over the restructuring of the club's internal management will precipitate his departure. Although Sir Rodney Walker, the chairman of Leicester's plc arm, is optimistic that the manager will remain, a parting of the ways is now all but inevitable — possibly later today, before O'Neill leaves for France as part of BBC TV's World Cup team.

ton will immediately approach him although, out of courtesy, they would probably seek Leicester's permission.

O'Neill, who has been at Filbert Street for 30 months and won the Coca-Cola Cup in that time, has a clause in his contract which guarantees Leicester around £1 million in compensation if he should leave to join another club, an agreement which would become void if he should resign.

Kendall's departure will come less than a month after he steered Everton to Premiership survival on the final day of last season. Initially it had appeared likely that he would be

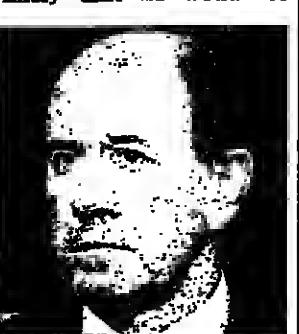
allowed to continue with his efforts to revitalise Everton's fortunes.

Although the chairman Peter Johnson denied him the vote of confidence, he was invited to strengthen the senior squad, lodging a £3.75 million bid for the Bolton midfielder Alan Thompson, who joined Aston Villa last Friday, and for Derby's Lee Carsley.

Kendall even survived a face-to-face meeting with Johnson in Milan last month, insisting that his own future had not been on the agenda. However, Kendall's fate was sealed last Friday when Johnson returned to Goodison from his Jersey home to lock horns with a divided board which was frustrated and on the point of rebellion.

Most were anxious for a fourth managerial switch in 4½ years but Johnson's 68 per cent shareholding ensured that his was the only opinion that mattered. As he had decided Kendall should go, there was no need for protracted discussion.

Kendall returned last June, digging Johnson out of a hole after Bobby Robson and Andy Gray declined the job.



Kendall ... time up, again



France 98 Aces and wild cards

# Romania awash with boos

England's rivals have been dogged by feuds with the public and press. Russell Thomas reports

**P**AUL GASCOIGNE and Teddy Sheringham are not alone. A chorus of disapproval has been raining down on the players of Romania, who will rival England in the World Cup and are being branded at home as companions in disgrace.

Consumption, though not of the kebabs and ale variety, has raised its ugly head in Romania. In an impoverished country, tales of their 'exiles' sharp-suited, Ferrari-driving lifestyles understandably jar with the millions of have-nots at home. There are many easy targets: 16 of Anghel Iordanescu's 22-man squad ply their lucrative trade abroad.

The squad, accused of the media of whipping up public hostility, have retaliated with a self-imposed gag in France, refusing to talk to anyone except Romanian state television and at official Fifa conferences. The action was to "maintain our emotional balance", said the letter signed by all 22 players.

The boycott followed backtracking by the Bucharest crowd in the 3-3 win over Paraguay on Wednesday. Afterwards a row erupted over the goalkeeper Bogdan Stelea's antics; he bared his chest, and the crowd allegedly made the obscene gesture to the crowd and loud, sustained jeering.

George Hagi, the captain and national idol, led the player protest. "The public does not love us because you [journalists] write nonsense about us. We deserve a statue for what we've done in the last 10 years for Romania and don't deserve to be criticised."

Chelsea's Dan Petrescu remarked acerbically: "Maybe we should not play in Romania any more. Maybe we should play in Bulgaria."

The Romanian Football Federation took Petrescu's bait at his word, swiftly shifting Romania's last friendly against Moldova from the national stadium to Ploiesti, 37 miles north of Bucharest. The Federation cited "disputes between the players and Bucharest's spectators".

After winning the game 5-1 on Saturday, the squad headed yesterday for the relative sanctuary of Albi, their training base in France.

There the Romanians hope finally to smooth the troubled road to France 98, once pitted by Iordanescu's announcement early this year that he will leave to coach the Greek national team after the finals. That prompted the Federation to strip the country's most famous general of his honorary rank. Yet Iordanescu is



Ten's time... Gheorghe Hagi, at 33, remains pivotal to the plans of Romania's coach Anghel Iordanescu (below) PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERT GHEMONT; GARY M. PETER

still held in high regard, something which cannot be said of the domestic game, tainted by allegations of corruption.

Romania's campaign in France has been widely billed as the last chance for the old guard, England without a single player of World Cup experience, should beware seasoned opponents who are stung by lack of respect internationally.

They, after all, are the seeds in Group G, not England — after a stunning qualifying performance which saw them win nine of their 10 matches and amass 37 goals. They are no more in awe of Glenn Hoddle's team than previous Romanian sides, unbeaten in their past five games against England.

Generals are usually conservative, so little personal and tactical alteration is likely from Iordanescu in France.



"There will be some changes," he conceded tersely when questioned about strategy, but his team will scarcely stray from the counter-attacking approach which maximises their unquestionably high technique and wonderful flexibility in switching formation.

The coach's inner circle of Hagi, Petrescu — both share Steaua Bucharest back-grounds with Iordanescu — Gica Popescu and Dorinel Munteanu are guaranteed places. Proven performers in 1994, this quartet have captained, successfully for the recall of the Dumitrescu, whose performances in the US precipitated his fateful move to England. The mercurial forward now plies his trade with Atlante in Mexico.

Ageing limbs in important positions are the prime concern. Doubts persist about the 33-year-old Hagi lasting more than an hour, though his devotees say that is more than sufficient for the midfielder to wreck havoc with that wondrous left foot. Gica Popescu, 30, was not noted for pace in his unhappy Tottenham days or for relishing a physical contest, which is the Romanians' biggest fear when they meet England.

The defence, like the midfield, would have virtually picked itself but for the blow of losing Atletico Madrid's tough central defender Daniel Frodan to injury. But Iordanescu appears to have good cover here in the versatile 24-year-old Iulian Filipescu, a Galatasaray club-mate of Hagi and Gica Popescu. Nevertheless, the rearguard has looked decidedly suspect in some warm-up games.

The attack, supported by Petrescu's forays down the right, presents fascinating options, even if Dumitrescu and Marinus Lacatus, now 34, can expect to be used sparingly. Much will depend on the 24-year-old Valencia striker Adrian Ilie living up to his billing as the new hope of Romanian football and justifying his nickname "The Cobra", which stems from his sudden, venomous shooting.

Alongside him, Coventry City's Viorel Moldovan or Radu Niculescu will eagerly pursue any opportunities.

For all the talent at his disposal, the strong-willed Iordanescu may need more than the crucifix he was seen clutching constantly four years ago. He can do without the temperamental excesses which undermine Romania's chances and can do with the luck that eluded his country in the US and in Italia 90, when elimination by penalty shoot-outs provided cruel obstacles to games Romania should have won.

## Bergkamp out, Passarella reacts to drugs test

Noam Friedlander

**D**ENNIS BERGKAMP'S hamstring injury has ensured that he will miss Holland's opening World Cup match against Belgium on Saturday and almost certainly their second against South Korea on June 20.

The Dutch team's doctor, Frits Kessel, speaking from their camp, said: "The injury has been far worse than estimated in the beginning. We didn't want pressure to be put on him, although he does handle everything so well."

Bergkamp has now been

out of action for six weeks, a fact which worries the Dutch coach Guus Hiddink.

"Repairing an injured player is one thing, getting him match-fit is another. I hope and pray he'll be able to guide us to the world title."

The Argentinian squad have been put into isolation by their coach Daniel Passarella following a positive test for a banned substance by an unnamed squad member.

Passarella, a stern disciplinarian, has closed the camp for two days in order to restore calm.

The team's doctor, Luis Seveso, has tried to quell the

storm by claiming that the test could have been caused by his giving several players a "rapid cure" influenza medication laced with doring competition.

The controversial Brazilian striker Edmundo has told furious team-mates that his quotes, when he claimed to be better than Bebeto, had been misunderstood after they criticised him in a team meeting at their Ocoir-La-Perrière training camp.

The comment came after Bebeto had been chosen over Edmundo to start Wednesday's game against Scotland. After the players grilled Ed-

mundo last Saturday he claimed that he did not mean that he should play, merely that he was ready to.

Japan, Argentina's opening opponents next Sunday, made 10 substitutions at half-time and struggled to find their rhythm as they best the French Second Division side Gueugnon 1-0 in their final warm-up match yesterday, the striker Mitsuaki Nishizawa leading a ninth-minute goal.

The captain Masami Ihara was missing due to an ankle injury but the flame-haired midfielder Hidetoshi Nakata showed his class as his pass-

ing and vision were behind all their attacks.

The Japanese appeal to remove a Jamaican assistant referee from their following match against Croatia has succeeded. Japan pointed out Jamaica are also in Group H.

Ivan Zamorano, the Internazionale and Chilean International, has picked up a slight knee injury in a practice match, said the team doctor Eugenio Valdecanas yesterday. "There's no swelling."

The striker, who partners the former Manchester United target Marcelo Salas up front, should be able to

train again soon in time to be fit for Chile's opening match on Thursday against Italy.

Fifa has ensured that time added on for injuries and substitutions will be strictly regulated at the World Cup Finals and communicated to players and spectators.

The referees are under strict instructions to add on 30 seconds at half-time or full-time for each substitution and a full minute or more for any injury which requires a player to leave the field.

A further innovation is that time-wasting will be penalised in units of 30 seconds at the referee's discretion.

## Red tape and rumour conspire to give Indomitable Lions raw deal

**C**AMEROON will be hoping for a few boring days in their Belders training camp after the chaos of their lead-up to France 98.

With the head of the country's FFA in detention back home in Yaounde over alleged World Cup ticket irregularities, the Africans' preparation for their first match, against Austria on Thursday, has hardly been without a ripple or two.

The Indomitable Lions arrived in Montpellier on Friday without visas and bearing only photocopies of their passports.

French newspapers said the group of 35, held in customs for two hours, were allowed entry only after authorities issued players with temporary passes. World Cup organisers said the team were held up "by administrative formalities".

Cameroon had arrived from Copenhagen, where they had beaten Denmark 2-1 in a warm-up match.

Meanwhile, in the Cameroon capital the president of the country's football federation Vincent Onana was questioned and detained in a defence ministry building.

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## Tennis Sanchez Vicario plays it tough and gracious

**L**IFE is not a soap opera and Monica Seles did not win the French Open title here on Saturday. In a fairytale world she would have recaptured the glories of those three high-powered victories at Roland Garros between 1990 and 1992. The reality was that she foundered on her own frailties and the excellence of her opponent.

Aranza Sanchez Vicario's simple and heartfelt "I'm so sorry I beat you" beautifully captured the occasion. Seles had arrived in Paris less than a fortnight after her father Karoly's death, with an immense amount of sympathy and goodwill buoying her every step and stroke.

Five years ago Seles seemingly had it all: eight Grand Slam titles by the time she was 19, and the prospect of many more. Then, in April 1993, she was stabbed while playing in Hamburg, and her radiant future became a life of shadow and uncertainty.

There is small wonder that the Yugoslav-born American resolutely holds herself in the here and now. She was asked on Saturday, after her 7-6, 0-6, 6-2 defeat, whether her appearance in the final in any way compared with the previous occasions.

"I don't remember how it



used to feel. I'm in the present right now." Seles replied firmly and, as is her custom, she gave a little nod of her head to reinforce that this particular line of questioning was over.

It was always likely, despite the public desire for her to succeed, that Seles would find the going tough against the Spaniard, especially if she lost the opening set.

The severity of Seles's semi-final victory over Switzerland's Martina Hingis, the world No.1 and pre-tournament favourite, was riveting, but sustaining such intensity requires plenty of games in the bank and her father's illness prevented that.

In Saturday's third set the errors, virtually non-existent against Hingis, began to

multiply at crucial moments. Seles missed five break-points whereas Sanchez Vicario needed only one to build an impregnable 4-1 lead.

Sanchez Vicario has acquired the reputation of being an essentially defensive player, relying on her opponents to make mistakes. There is also a good deal of blatant sexism against her because she does not fit comfortably into the male marketing dream.

Off court she can be as charming as she is fiercely competitive on court and nobody could have been more gracious in victory than Sanchez Vicario. She knew the crowd were virtually all on the side of Seles, yet there was never a trace of irritation or self-pity. "I love this tour-

**Stephen Bierley in Paris sees the Spaniard end the Seles fairytale with apologies**

Embracing grace... Sanchez Vicario hugs Seles after beating her.

nament," she said. And so she should.

This was the Spaniard's sixth French Open singles final and her third victory, the other two coming in 1988 against Steffi Graf when she was 17, and four years ago against Mary Pierce.

Her two dogs are named Roland and Garros in honour of those wins but she does not intend buying a third. "I would need a huge new house," she said, although she could certainly afford one, having won nearly £400,000 on Saturday.

Although Sanchez Vicario could never match Seles's initial power, she responded to the challenge with a wide variety of superb winners, although in the vital tie-break the American all but out-

structed when she insisted on repeating fruitless drop shots. Sanchez Vicario more or less allowed the second set to speed by, taking only six points from six games, but an early break in the final set put her back in the ascendancy.

So the veterans — Sanchez Vicario is 26, Seles 24 — thumbed their noses at the teenagers and, with Graf due to try another comeback in Boston this week, the youngsters may find Wimbledon equally tough. In sharp contrast to the men, women's tennis is brimming with interest.

For Hingis at least there was some consolation for her singles exit when she shared the women's doubles title with Jana Novotna. The Swiss and the Czech, seeded second, beat the top-seeded partnership of Lindsay Davenport and Natasha Zvereva 6-1, 7-5 in the final.

In the men's event the Dutch pairing of Jacco Eltingh and Paul Haarhuis had to regain impetus for a 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 win over Mark Knowles of the Bahamas and Daniel Nestor of Canada. The Williams sisters met in the mixed doubles final. Venus and Justin Gimelstob, beating her younger sibling Serena and Mike Flory, 6-4, 6-2.

ملكا من الأدلة



# France 98 The task ahead of England



Fine-tuning for the finals... the Tunisian Skander Souayah hurdles a challenge by Craig Bellamy as Mark Penbridge closes in during the 4-0 win over Wales in Tunis

PHOTOGRAPH BY MOHAMED HAMAM

## Tunisia play the guessing game

Martin Thorpe in Tunis sees England's first opponents learn little from a 4-0 win over Wales about what faces them next Monday

ONE would have thought that in a country of 20 per cent desert it would be easy to see the wood for the trees. But Tunisia's final game before they become England's opening World Cup opponents produced not so much mutual enlightenment as bilateral confusion.

First, Tunisia had booked Saturday's date with Wales presuming that a British side could simulate the challenge lying ahead in Marseille a week today. Hoping to face an England clone, Tunisia found themselves playing a footballing version of Dolly the sheep.

Wales's attempted impersonation of Hoddle's team looked more like a take-off of Doncaster Rovers, and a 4-0 win left the Tunisians none the wiser about what to expect on June 15.

Which will please Hoddle, especially as his team selections of late have thoroughly confused Tunisians anyway.

"We have watched all England's matches," said the Tunisian FA's president Taieb Ben M'Barek, "and things are taking place but I don't know what is Glenn Hoddle's hiding something?"

More than likely. But if the Tunisians' extracted minimal benefit from Saturday's game, so did England. Sitting in the main stand at the El-Menzah stadium, Hoddle's scout Dave Sexton was left only to imagine how Tunisia will play against England, whose defence should not give away

questioned his attitude. The match was further enhanced by Bena's performance as a second-half substitute when he, too, struggled to piece together the fragments of a once sublime talent.

Exotica in the starting line-up is now provided by a Brazilian, Jose Clayton, who became a Tunisian national after three years with a local club and on Saturday showed that he possesses a samba touch if not a total grasp.

But despite the signs, one can only think that Tunisia would not have blossomed so well had the opposition hailed from east of Offa's Dyke. Their football is in transition from amateur to professional and progression to the World Cup second round would represent success for a nation of only 250,000 registered players.

As for beating England, that would be a miracle, admitted M'Barek, before cheekily proposing that if Hoddle's side allowed Tunisia to draw the match, they would back England's bid for the 2006 World Cup.

Realistically Tunisia's hopes lie in catching England on one of their traditionally slow starts, lasting better in the heat and being lifted to undreamt-of heights by the passion of the partisan crowd inside the Stade Velodrome in Marseille, a city with a huge north African population.

"I've put England out of the World Cup once so why shouldn't I do it again," boasts Tunisia's coach Henry Kasperczak, a member of the Poland side who famously blocked England's qualification for the 1974 finals. "When you look at the English Premiership, we are impressed with those games. But so far Hoddle's team have not proved anything."

They did the same against Chile, and as a result they lost a game they should have won. They were the better side until the last 20 minutes. But I think there's space there for England to do some damage."

It was easy for Tunisian players to stand out against Wales. Khaled Badra, one of the central defenders, showed delicate and confident touch for a tall man; Skander Souayah roamed midfield with an adventurous eye and showed himself to be more than an adequately inventive replacement for Zouheir Bena.

Bena is Tunisia's version of Gazza, uncannily known as "the fat one" and dropped because the national coach

## Brown hits at Sky 'twist'

Patrick Glenn in St Remy-de-Provence and Russell Thomas find Sheringham and television darkening the World Cup view for England and Scotland



Sheringham... 10-day trial

THE Scotland manager Craig Brown yesterday accused Sky Television of creating bad blood between him and Glenn Hoddle, the England coach.

Brown said he had been trying to call Hoddle to explain that he had been "stitched up" in a broadcast by the satellite company after the Scots' first open press conference here on Saturday.

"I have already spoken to David Davies of the Football Association to clarify the matter," said an angry Brown, "and I'll keep trying to get hold of Glenn. It's not an apology, as we have nothing to apologise for. But Glenn should have an explanation."

Brown began the weekend briefing by saying that "I have no back-page leads for you guys" — his normal opening line to the Scottish media on quiet news days. He was immediately asked by an English reporter for a comment on the Teddy Sheringham affair. Brown refused to comment, insisting he was concerned only with his own players and adding that so far everything had gone well.

Sky began its broadcast by saying that "Craig Brown had no front page or back page news today" and Scotland's

manager believed that introduction implied smugness on his part as well as criticism of Hoddle and the England squad's off-field behaviour.

"We are certainly not smug and we are not in the business of criticising anyone," said Brown.

Brown's only difficulty appears to be keeping some training sessions a secret from the inquisitive Brazilian media. Most work-outs are open but there are times when the manager insists on privacy.

When he tried a short session in camera for the first time on Saturday morning, he found Brazilian reporters spying from the top of a strategically placed van on a slope outside the ground.

On completion of yesterday's full session Brown had to spirit his four main midfield players away to work in private on set-pieces.

"We do our best to accommodate everyone and that's why most of our practice is open," he said. "But there are times when we have to work on things that we simply must keep to ourselves. Every manager here will have to do that to one degree or another."

I look Craig Burley, Billy McKelvie, John Collins and Paul Lambert off to practise free-kicks, corners and throw-ins. There are elements you can introduce to these set-pieces which might just be the kind of little thing that could give Brazil problems."

Sheringham goes to France as England's first-choice partner for Alan Shearer despite his much publicised revulsion at the Algarve. But Hoddle has told the Manchester United striker that he is effectively on trial before their opening match with Tunisia next Monday — and beyond.

Hoddle binned, despite Michael Owen's rising stock, that Sheringham would start ahead of the Liverpool teenager in Marseille. "You've got to look at other things and it won't be a scenario based on this week," he said. "I've seen what Teddy's done over the years as an international player."

But Hoddle added: "I will watch closely in training over the next 10 days to see how sharp he looks. But it'll be no different to the way I assess Gareth Southgate and Martin Keown."

Hoddle did not consider dropping the 32-year-old Sheringham from his squad and it appears the player partially redeemed himself with his fulsome apology for parting until dawn during the three-day pre-tournament break.

Nevertheless Hoddle was outraged by the incident, demanded a public apology and got one when a sheepish Sheringham read a statement at Bisham Abbey in which he admitted "a lack of professionalism".

He added: "If people read that I was out until 5am it sounds disgraceful, and I admit that... I know it's come across that I've been a fool and, when I got back and read the papers, it crossed my mind that what had happened to Paul [Gascogne] could happen to me."

Hoddle eased Sheringham's worries by predicting that he and Owen will "have a big say in this World Cup, if they're injury free. Michael and Teddy are very, very diverse in their style of play and I think that gives us an added dimension". The coach clearly intends to use both, with Owen's pace — and dedicated approach — poised ultimately to supplant a ponderous Sheringham.

## Arsenal bid for De Boer rejected by Ajax

AJAX have rejected an Arsenal bid of £3 million for the Dutch international midfielder Ronald de Boer. "A transfer is out of the question and will stay that way," an official for the Amsterdam club said yesterday.

De Boer has a contract which ties him to Ajax until 2004 but has made no secret of his wish for a move. Until that time (2004), we will not let him go, whatever offers we get," the spokesman added.

Brian Laudrup's appearances in the World Cup will be made as a Chelsea player after the Dane put pen to paper in Copenhagen on Saturday, six days after his Rangers contract expired.

Rangers are still seeking compensation for the 29-year-old, who signed a three-year deal under the Bosman ruling after Chelsea's managing director Colin Hutchinson met him in the Danish capital.

"We've decided that he should sign because his contract at Rangers expired on May 31 and he could have been going to the World Cup not attached to any club," Hutchinson said. "We thought all the speculation should be removed."

Wendie Renard has offered John Hartson £5 million deal which will make him their highest-paid player. The deal, worth more than £15,000 a week, will tie the Welshman to Upton Park for seven years.

Hartson's blackboard target before they bought Southampton's Kevin Davies, is aware that West Ham valued him at £10 million and hung out for more than a three-year extension to his current deal, which has three years to run.

"We are much closer together now and I feel I will sign the new offer," Hartson said. "I do not want to leave but, if I am going to stay with the club until I am nearly 32, then the deal has to be right."

David Sheepshanks has praised the Nationwide League clubs' "unprecedented unity" after 69 of the 72 at Saturday's annual general meeting backed what the chairman described as "a package of change" and so prevented a possible breakaway league being formed.

Telford have avoided relegation to the Dr Martens League after Slough pulled out of the Vauxhall Conference. The directors of Slough, who finished ninth last season, said the club could not guarantee fulfilling their commitments.

## England face an old enemy

England face an old enemy and on Monday, Tunisia coach Henri Kasperczak was a member of Poland's national team in 1972 that spoke of the World Cup. Kasperczak's men and he, a former captain, returned to Tunisia to coach the national team. "I've got England in the World Cup and I should be happy to play against them," he said. "The odds are stacked heavily against us but we will win."

England's confidence, buoyed by the 4-0 win over Wales on Saturday, will be a boost to the team. "We are confident and we will win," Kasperczak said. "We are confident and we will win."

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## Tennis

## Moya kicks on the dirt

Stephen Barley in Paris

THE first drunken Scotsman has been spotted in the city centre while a couple of footballs, signed by Pele, were hoisted into the crowd here at Roland Garros yesterday after the men's singles final completed a Spanish double. Goodbye tennis, hello soccer.

Carlos Moya caught the impending mood just before the women's final on Saturday when he played a prolonged game of tennis football on the Centre-Court. And very accomplished he looked.

Similarly so yesterday. The Spaniard from Palencia won his first Grand Slam title with a 6-3, 7-5, 6-3 victory over his fellow Spaniard Alex Corretja. This was not a match to linger in the memory, although it may have considerable significance for Moya.

This 31st right-hander, first drew international attention at the 1997 Australian Open when he knocked out the holder, Germany's Boris Becker, in the first round and went on to reach the final, where he lost to Pete Sampras.

This rush to fame took its toll, Moya failing to get past the second round of his next four Grand Slams. He redis-

covered his touch at the start of this year's clay-court season, reaching the semi-finals in Estoril and Barcelona before winning in Monte Carlo. Yet Moya is no mere clay-court specialist, as he showed at Melbourne. He has a good serve, a devastating forehand and is more than capable at the net. This victory could see him make a concerted push for the No. 1 spot, although not until after Wimbledon.

Seeded No. 12, Moya moved quietly through to the last eight here, dropping only one set. By then, after the carnage of the first week that left him the second-highest seed remaining, his quarter-final against Marcelo Rios, seeded No. 3, had the look of a match likely to decide the title.

Rios was the pre-tournament favourite but Moya, playing one of the clay-court matches of his life, won 6-3, 7-5, 6-4 against the Chilean. Two friends, Felix Mantilla and Corretja, stood between Moya and the Paris crown.

Like the four musketeers, the Spaniards practise an all-for-one-and-one-for-all policy, aiming to raise their country's tennis prestige and prowess.

Prior to this tournament Corretja's best Grand Slam run was at the 1996 US Open, when he lost an epic four-

hour quarter-final marathon against Sampras. He demonstrated his appetite for long matches again here with his third-round victory over Hernan Gumeny of Argentina lasting a record 5hr 31 min.

Corretja, three years older than Moya, had won two of their previous three meetings, although lost to him in Monte Carlo this year.

The first set yesterday seemed likely to be conclusive and both men displayed nerves. However, it was Moya who began to impose his greater range and weight of shots, while Corretja never reproduced his best form.

Moya missed one match-point at 5-2 before serving out for the title and dropping spreadeagled on the red dirt. Corretja leapt over the net to embrace him and, in turn, they were hugged by Pele who presented the trophy.

Pele also produced two World Cup footballs, indulged in a spot of head tennis with both players and then watched as they kicked the balls into the crowd. Moya appeared a touch reluctant, as if a football signed by Pele was too precious to release.

And so another French Open was over. King Clay is dead in France. Long live King Football.

## Graf returns with a view to Wimbledon

STEFFI GRAF, seven-time Wimbledon champion who has played only two tournaments in 12 months because of injury, will this week make her latest attempt at a comeback when she contests the DFS Classic which starts today in Birmingham.

Graf, who will be 29 on June 14, underwent knee surgery shortly after playing in the French Open last June but aggravated the injury in February. She slipped off the world rankings list today for the first time since January 1993.

The German was given a wild card to play at Edgbaston Priory and, if all goes well, she will move on to Eastbourne before making her 13th appearance at Wimbledon, which she first won in 1988.

Four Britons, Chris Wilkinson, Mark Petchey, Andrew Richardson and Martin Lee, will be in action when the Stella Artois Championships begin at Queen's Club today while the No. 2 seed Greg Rusedski and Tim Henman, seeded seventh, have first-round byes, as does the top seed Pete Sampras.



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### County Championships

Surrey	6	4	1	1	20	19	100	3	11/23/6/9/2
Sussex	6	3	1	2	12	23	89	4	4/22/4/22/2
Durham	6	3	2	1	11	23	85	0	2/4/24/47
Derbyshire	6	2	3	1	10	20	65	3	4/21/9/27
Middlesex	6	2	2	2	12	14	64	4	4/22/4/23/1
Gloucestershire	5	2	2	1	9	20	64	2	3/24/8/21/5
Leicestershire	5	2	0	3	12	11	64	4	4/5/24/4
Kent	6	2	2	2	5	19	62	3	23/22/4/4
Yorkshire	5	2	2	1	9	18	62	1	4/5/6/20
Somerset	5	2	2	1	9	15	59	4	23/3/10/4
Worcestershire	5	1	1	3	14	13	52	2	21/7/11/5/4
Glamorgan	5	1	2	2	10	18	50	4	7/6/21/5
Notts	6	1	3	2	7	21	50	2	5/5/23/6
Northants	5	1	0	4	8	13	49	1	3/4/10/2
Lancashire	5	1	1	3	9	14	48	2	10/3/23/4
Warwickshire	5	1	3	1	7	18	44	3	5/2/9/2
Hampshire	4	1	1	2	6	11	39	1	4/9/4/5/1
Essex	5	0	3	2	8	18	32		

DERBYSHIRE									
Building	W	1	MO	R	MS	Ann			
M1 Jones	5	6	8	85a	100	67.57			
M2 Jones	5	6	8	85a	121	44.83			
A3 Collins	5	6	12	2	35a	37.25			
Building	W	1	MO	R	MS	Ann			
M1 Jones	5	6	8	85a	100	67.57			
M2 Jones	5	6	8	85a	121	44.83			
M3 Jones	5	6	8	85a	121	44.83			
Building	W	1	MO	R	MS	Ann			
M1 Jones	5	6	8	85a	100	67.57			
M2 Jones	5	6	8	85a	121	44.83			
M3 Jones	5	6	8	85a	121	44.83			
Building	W	1	MO	R	MS	Ann			
M1 Jones	5	6	8	85a	100	67.57			
M2 Jones	5	6	8	85a	121	44.83			
M3 Jones	5	6	8	85a	121	44.83			
Building	W	1	MO	R	MS	Ann			
M1 Jones	5	6	8	85a	100	67.57			
M2 Jones	5	6	8	85a	121	44.83			
M3 Jones	5	6	8	85a	121	44.83			
Building	W	1	MO	R	MS	Ann			
M1 Jones	5	6	8	85a	100	67.57			
M2 Jones	5	6	8	85a	121	44.83			
M3 Jones	5	6	8	85a	121	44.83			
Building	W	1	MO	R	MS	Ann			
M1 Jones	5	6	8	85a	100	67.57			
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M3 Jones	5	6	8	85a	121	44.83			
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M3 Jones	5	6	8	85a	121	44.83			
Building	W	1	MO	R	MS	Ann			
M1 Jones	5	6	8	85a	100	67.57			
M2 Jones	5	6	8	85a	121	44.83			

Setting	W	F	T
30 Low	5	9	
30 Return	3	8	

[illegible]

CURRENT FORM									
Bowling	inn	MO	Runs	Average	50s	100s	Wickets	Best	Wicket
1 G A Hirst	6	180	245	40.8	2	0	1	4/15	1
2 J L Langer	6	207	112.83	34.9	0	0	1	3/15	1
3 M A Lyon	6	1	253	42.16	0	0	1	3/15	1
4 J J Barnes	6	457	50.26	38.2	0	0	1	3/15	1
5 P A Morris	6	145	53.00	40.0	0	0	1	3/15	1
6 J L Langer	6	145	53.00	40.0	0	0	1	3/15	1
7 V A Lushenko	7	1	400	57.14	0	0	1	3/15	1
8 J L Langer	7	1	400	57.14	0	0	1	3/15	1
9 D Blythe	7	1	400	57.14	0	0	1	3/15	1
10 J L Langer	7	1	400	57.14	0	0	1	3/15	1
11 W G Watt	7	1	395	56.17	0	0	1	3/15	1
12 C L Hooper	7	1	395	56.17	0	0	1	3/15	1
Bowling	inn	MO	Runs	Average	50s	100s	Wickets	Best	Wicket
1 M B Bates	180	245	15.86	15.86	0	0	1	3/15	1
2 J L Langer	171.4	204	22	11.90	0	0	1	3/15	1
3 J L Langer	171.4	204	22	11.90	0	0	1	3/15	1
4 J L Langer	150.4	48	28.36	28.36	0	0	1	3/15	1
5 A Hirst	157.4	48	28.36	28.36	0	0	1	3/15	1
6 J L Langer	157.4	48	28.36	28.36	0	0	1	3/15	1
7 P A Morris	158.3	48	17	32.96	0	0	1	3/15	1
8 J L Langer	158.3	48	17	32.96	0	0	1	3/15	1
9 C W Tate	91.3	24	14.38	14.38	0	0	1	3/15	1
10 C W Tate	91.3	24	14.38	14.38	0	0	1	3/15	1
11 J L Langer	25.5	25	11.96	11.96	0	0	1	3/15	1
WICKETKEEPERS									
Bowling	inn	MO	Runs	Average	50s	100s	Wickets	Best	Wicket
1 M P Sengupta (Durham)	27.1	28	1	1	0	0	1	3/15	1
2 N J Bailey (Trentshire)	27.1	28	1	1	0	0	1	3/15	1
3 R A James (Hampshire)	15.2	10	1	1	0	0	1	3/15	1
4 K R Brown (Middlesex)	14.7	15	1	1	0	0	1	3/15	1
5 S A Morris (Kent)	13.7	15	1	1	0	0	1	3/15	1
BEST PARTNERSHIPS									
Bowling	inn	MO	Runs	Average	50s	100s	Wickets	Best	Wicket
1 M P Sengupta (Durham v Cam Univ)	227	1	1	1	0	0	1	3/15	1
2 J L Langer (Durham v Glam)	27.1	28	1	1	0	0	1	3/15	1
3 R A James (Durham v Glam)	15.2	10	1	1	0	0	1	3/15	1
4 K R Brown (Durham v Glam)	14.7	15	1	1	0	0	1	3/15	1
5 S A Morris (Durham v Glam)	13.7	15	1	1	0	0	1	3/15	1
BIG BOWLING									
Bowling	inn	MO	Runs	Average	50s	100s	Wickets	Best	Wicket
1 G A Hirst (Durham v Glam)	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	3/15	1
2 J L Langer (Middlesex v Glam)	2	1	1	1	0	0	1	3/15	1
3 D Blythe (Durham v Glam)	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	3/15	1
4 M P Sengupta (Durham v Glam)	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	3/15	1
5 S A Morris (Durham v Glam)	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	3/15	1
COUNTY TOTALS									
Bowling	inn	MO	Runs	Average	50s	100s	Wickets	Best	Wicket
1 G A Hirst (Durham)	694	1	1	1					

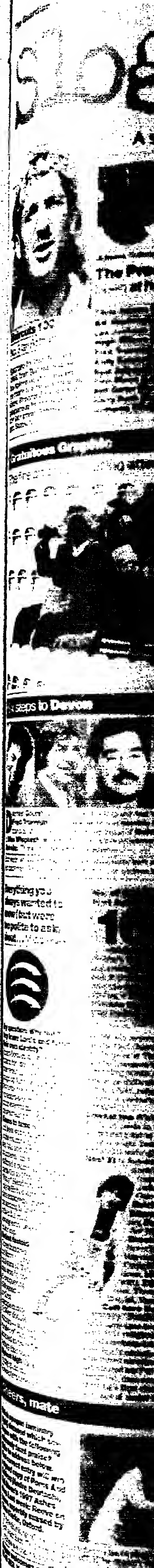
# County Championship Results and Fixtures

<b>APRIL 17</b> Derby 248 to 107 (5) by 26 wickets. Gloucestershire 221 to 105 (4) by 141 runs. Kent 61 to 106 (5) by 104 wickets. Surrey 71 (over with Northamptonshire 17). Warwickshire 115 (over with Durham 113). Yorkshire 223 to 106 (4) by 26 wickets. Somerset 223 to Somerset 117 by 115 runs.	<b>APRIL 23</b> Gloucestershire 221 to Durham 64 by 46 runs. Durham 64 (over with Sussex 11). Gloucestershire 117 (over with Kent 4). Hants 215 to 106 with Northants 20. Leicestershire 125 (over with Worcestershire 4). Leicestershire 125 (over with Nottinghamshire 7). Surrey 240 to 106 (4) by 194 runs and 184 runs. Yorkshire 223 to Derbyshire 117 by 111 runs.	<b>MAY 13</b> Warley 223 to Derbyshire 141 by 116 and 61 runs. Durham v Essex (Preston). Surrey 240 to Hants 102 by 143 runs and 184 runs. Kent v Lancashire (Canterbury). Gloucestershire v Somerset (Leamington). Northants 223 to Yorkshire 16 by eight wickets. Sussex 223 to Nottingham 16 by four wickets.	<b>MAY 21</b> Leicestershire 223 to Essex 165 by seven wickets. Gloucestershire 223 to Yorks 165 by 200 runs. Kent 244 to Durham 165 by 110 runs and 27 runs. Gloucestershire 225 (over with Hampshire 18). Middlesex 225 (over with Warwickshire 18). Leicestershire 225 (over with Gloucestershire 11). Somerset 225 to Surrey 165 by 186 runs. Gloucestershire 225 to Sussex 165 by seven wickets. Notts 225 to Warwick 165 by 26 wickets.	<b>MAY 29</b> Durham 225 to Hants 165 by eight wickets. Leeds 225 to Essex 165 by 36 runs. Middlesex 225 to Kent 165 by one wicket. Surrey 225 to Kent 165 by 110 runs and 20 runs. Warwickshire 225 to over with Sussex 165.	<b>JUNE 3</b> Derbyshire 225 (over with Gloucestershire 11). Gloucestershire 225 to Middlesex 165 by one wicket. Essex 165 to Warwick 165 by one wicket. Essex 165 to Warwick 165 by one wicket. Surrey 225 to over with Nottinghamshire 11).	<b>JUNE 10</b> Durham v Northamptonshire (Pleasley). Gloucestershire v Somerset (Leamington). Gloucestershire v Worcestershire (Leamington). Gloucestershire v Warwickshire (Leamington). Lancashire v Somerset (Old Trafford). Yorkshire v Kent (Leamington). Yorkshire v Northamptonshire (Pleasley).	<b>JUNE 17</b> Durham v Yorkshire (Pleasley). Gloucestershire v Leicestershire (Canterbury). Leicestershire v Derbyshire (Leamington). Kent v Nottinghamshire (Canterbury). Surrey v Sussex (Old Trafford). Northamptonshire v Gloucestershire (Northampton). Sussex v Warwickshire (Leamington). Warwickshire v Gloucestershire (Worcester).	<b>JUNE 26</b> Leicestershire v Sussex (Leamington). Middlesex v Essex (Wolverhampton). Northamptonshire v Gloucestershire (Northampton). Surrey v Hampshire (Leamington). Warwickshire v Lancashire (Wolverhampton).	<b>JULY 1</b> Derbyshire v Essex (Derby). Durham v Leicestershire (Derbyshire). Gloucestershire v Somerset (Leamington). Hampshire v Gloucestershire (Southampton). Kent v Yorkshire (Leamington). Middlesex v Gloucestershire (Leamington). Northamptonshire v Gloucestershire (Northampton). Warwickshire v Northamptonshire (Worcester).	<b>JULY 14</b> Gloucestershire v Essex (Cheltenham). Leicestershire v Northamptonshire (Leamington). Leicestershire v Gloucestershire (Leamington).	<b>JULY 15</b> Essex v Kent (Southend). Surrey v Middlesex (Wolverhampton).	<b>WARWICKSHIRE v HAMPSHIRE (Edgbaston)</b> Yorkshire v Nottinghamshire (Scarborough). <b>JULY 22</b> Gloucestershire v Lancashire (Old Trafford). Gloucestershire v Surrey (Cheltenham). Hampshire v Nottinghamshire (Portsmouth). Middlesex v Yorkshire (Leamington). Northamptonshire v Derbyshire (Northampton). Somerset v Durham (Leamington). <b>JULY 23</b> Warwickshire v Essex (Edgbaston). <b>JULY 30</b> Derbyshire v Kent (Derby). Hampshire v Durham (Southampton). Gloucestershire v Leicestershire (Canterbury). Kent v Northants (North Bridge). Surrey v Sussex (Old Trafford). Warwickshire v Gloucestershire (Edgbaston). Worcestershire v Yorkshire (Worcester). <b>AUGUST 5</b> Essex v Gloucestershire (Cheltenham). Kent v Hampshire (Canterbury). Gloucestershire v Northamptonshire (Old Trafford). Gloucestershire v Somerset (Leamington). Middlesex v Gloucestershire (Leamington). Surrey v Hampshire (Leamington). Warwickshire v Northamptonshire (Worcester). <b>AUGUST 6</b> Surrey v Derbyshire (The Oval). <b>AUGUST 14</b> Derbyshire v Worcestershire (Derby). Durham v Gloucestershire (Leamington). Gloucestershire v Kent (Derby). Northamptonshire v Lancashire (North Bridge). Somerset v Northamptonshire (Leamington). Sussex v Middlesex (Leamington). Yorkshire v Lancashire (Pleasley). <b>AUGUST 19</b> Durham v Lancashire (Leamington). Essex v Gloucestershire (Cheltenham). Gloucestershire v Gloucestershire (Canterbury). Lancashire v Middlesex (Leamington). Northants v Warwick (Northampton). Northamptonshire v Surrey (North Bridge). Somerset v Derbyshire (Canterbury).
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*The* **Guardian** INTERNATIONAL

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# Slogger

A side-on glance at cricket



**Haircuts 100**  
No. 3 Ian Botham



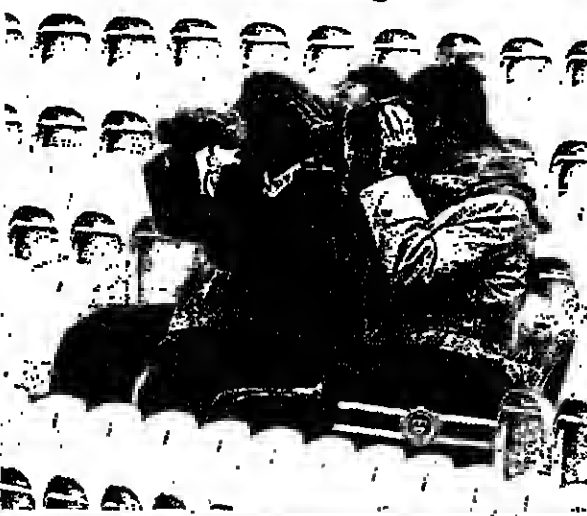
**The Presidents' XI** They would have been at home at the White House

Spurred by Iron Maiden in 1985, Iron Bottom vented his spleen on the Aussies en route to a record haul of sixes. Reportedly used for plagiarism by the estate of the late great Hebrew slogger, Samson.

Chris Adams (Sussex)	You can call me Quincy
Bill Washington (Yorkshire)	Skittled Aussies for 23, by George
Lee Jackson (Derbyshire)	Tough on old hickory
Hugh Wilson (Surrey)	Would row boats on days off
Fred Trueman (Surrey)	Used to hairy batsmen
Andy Kennedy (Lancashire)	Marlon Who?
Peter Johnson (Middlesex)	Ladybird-loving bloke
Paul Nixon (Leicestershire)	Scrupulously honest toiler
Bob Carter (Northants)	Peonut-loving coach
Harry Bush (Surrey)	Edwardian with CIA connections
Graham Clinton (Kent)	Never lunched, nor mislaid

## Gratuitous Graphic

The fine art of calculating attendances at Sussex



- The secretary:**
- 1 Estimates the size of the crowd
  - 2 Subtracts the approximate number of members
  - 3 Multiplies by admission price
  - 4 Compares result to gate receipts
  - 5 Takes away the first number he thought of
  - 6 Eats his calculator
  - 7 Makes it up

## Six steps to Devon



**Devon** Gough is a Yorkshire and England fast bowler with an unfeasibly large bottom, as was Fred Trueman, who owns several unfeasibly large pipes, as does Saddam Hussein, whose policies upset John Major, as did those of Norman Lamont, who shared the same residence as Miles Whitelash, whose job involves bits of leather flying in all directions, as does that of Devon Watcote. (Thanks to Rod Smith, Crawley.)

Each week we will print the most ingenious route from a specified personality to Northamptonshire's ageless paceman. Send your contributions to the address below. This week's starting-point: Alan Dawdall

## Everything you always wanted to know (but were too polite to ask) about... Middlesex



**Key question: Why don't they leave Lord's and forge their own identity?**  
Quick bottom answer: In return for those luminous pale receipts, the landlords caught up for groundstaff, stewards, cleaners, caterers, boardroom-ethers - pretty much everything. In fact, bar the obvious pro's flat, Middlesex to name must wins and best winning percentage in the championship since D. T. (1948 and 55.7), no county champions have ever achieved a bumper return to success (1950, 1951). Elias "Patsy" Henderson, second only to Rhodes with 170 first-class hundreds, invented the batting helmet. Or rather, his massive 314, stinging torso peaks, which top.

for 100 at Cheltenham to set the 1947 championship while, over at The Oval, Denis Compton was Brylcreem South Africa. "It would be difficult," attested John Arlott, referring to Compton's century, "to find a parallel." Lowest low Whistled out for 23 at Leeds in 1974, the skinniest total in 40-over annals (eight Test stavelets notwithstanding). Best XI (v Sussex, 1980): Derek Bradley (capt), Dowdell (wicket), Radley, Gattling, Barber, Barrow, Edwards, Embury, Daniel, Van der Bijl, Selvey, Davies, Toombs, Haynes, Gattling, Compton, Ben-Aren, Murray (wicket), Edwards, Thomas, Thompson, Daniel, Van der Bijl, Cuff, here Norman "Smoker" Featherstone (capt). One-Quone, Jo'burg-born, this religiously undecimated strokemeister, extremely occasional offie and noted nicotine fiend, demanded his P45 in 1972, recanted, then entered 1976, trailing a three-class batting average of under 30, capped

glued to the line. Come September, Middlesex were champs and Smokey was on top of the off bowling averages (36 at 15.80). Heroic falling in one inordinately amiable pre-season friendly with Surrey with batsmen allowed to carry on for 40 minutes regardless of how often they were out. Smokey took full advantage and was dismissed by each of his first three balls. "It could be said that Middlesex deserved more of him," lamented Wadsworth upon his release in 1979, "and he of them."

## Big shout Murrums from the outfield

"I have to remember not to sign my name at the top of the bat."

Mike Atherton on the perils of life in the ranks

"One of the 107 sorry souls who have fallen to my rarely-employed leg-spin." Atherton gets all one-upmanship as he recalls his first encounter with Steele

...the on-pitch miffers at Faisalabad had gone on the blink. Shaboor Rana would never have misinterpreted 33D Atherton's comments about Pakistan. Mike Gattling would never have pulled his finger out, Graham Gooch would never have led England, and David Cover would never have stooped to working with Lee Flint.

## Cheers, mate

Which opening batsman would prefer to be a wicket-keeper? The answer is simple. Write to the editor.



Victory is starting to take its toll of the champions with three players - Paul Anderson, Warren Jowitt and Danny Peacock - already out for the season and James Lowe a late withdrawal yesterday with a knee problem. They are likely to be without

## Fraser keeps his powder dry

David Hopps at Edgbaston sees an old warhorse set up England's charge

So much has been made of English cricket's squeaky-clean image in the past few months that it was only a matter of time before it became official. The team under instruction to be whiter-than-white is about to sponsor a washing powder.

Tesco has yet to divulge how English cricket will help to market its own-brand washing powder, but perhaps it should be no surprise that a team put through the mangle so often should have finally progressed to automatics. Who says cricket fails to keep up with the times?

A snag, though, has presented itself. Just as the marketing department drools over the seductive catchphrases promised by an extended run of failure - "New Improved Sparkle: disappears down the plug-hole in no time, just like England" - for days of solid cricket, rounded off last evening by an enterprising flourish, have encouraged thoughts of victory.

That eruption of stroke-play owed much to the initial exertions of Angus Fraser who, in the absence because of injury of Darren Gough, lumbered in staunchly to prise out the first three South African wickets.

Nearly four years have passed since Raymond Iltingworth's derisive observation about Fraser that there were times when "we thought that he might not make it back to the end of his run". Well, there were times when that might have been right. But only a fool would doubt the size of Fraser's heart once he turns round. His 10th over yesterday, and his 31st of the innings, summed up his lot. Loosening into another long, long-hop were thrashed to the boundary in turn by Lance Klusener and Jonty Rhodes. He looked spent, only to summon up enough bounce and movement off



Broken Lance... Klusener starts to walk after being caught behind by the prone Stewart for 57

the seam to have Rhodes caught off an inside edge. If advertising bore any relation to the real world, then it would be Fraser's picture that would adorn the England washing powder. "Here are Angus's flames before we washed them in new Sparkle. Nothing else has ever removed such repulsive sweat and grime. But here they are afterwards. So fresh you can smell the fragrance of an English summer."

But advertising lost touch with actuality years ago. Fraser was never a contender. Even Alec Stewart, England's captain and Mr Squeaky Clean himself, has been overlooked. The face on the packet will be that of Adam Holoake, who has little chance of playing in the Test side all summer, but who has been identified by the advertising world as England's specialist one-day captain is abandoned, it will all just have to come out in the wash.

Another England sponsorship is only to be applauded, especially if the revenue is used for the long-overdue provision of artificial pitches in state schools. What is increasingly apparent, though, is English cricket's partiality - or perhaps need - for in-house deals. The chairman of the ECB, Lord MacLaurin of Knebworth, was a former chairman of Tesco. He is now chairman of Vodafone, sponsors of the England kit, and was on the board when the deal was finalised. Even

Simon Pack, the ECB's international teams director, and formerly in charge of the Gibraltar garrison, was member of MacLaurin's golf club at Valderama. Perhaps it should be stressed, at this stage, that Ben Spendlow, England's perky young substitute fielder, who took two short leg catches on Saturday, and spilled a devilishly difficult one at long leg yesterday, is not a shelf stacker at Tesco's Uxbridge branch, but a highly promising Derbyshire professional.

## Ormond seams in to scuttle Yorkshire

**FOUR** catches for the Leicestershire wicket-keeper Paul Nixon bore testimony to the seaming nature of a Headingley pitch which undid Yorkshire in their Axa Sunday League match against Leicestershire yesterday.

A career-best three for 16 for the Leicestershire paceman James Ormond helped scuttle Yorkshire for 83. The visiting batsmen reached the total for the loss of two wickets.

Yorkshire, who surprisingly chose to bat on winning the toss, struggled back from 25 for five and were out

with 38.1 overs. It was left to Richard Blakey in alliance with Bradley Parker, and then Gavin Hamilton, to restore some dignity to the innings.

Dominic Williamson, the fifth bowler in an excellent Leicestershire attack, took three late wickets to finish with three for 12.

## Rugby League

Super League: Warrington Wolves 28 Bradford Bulls 10

## Bradley gets the elbow

Andy Wilson

**GRAEME BRADLEY**, Bradford's Australian captain, was suspended for his next match, at home to Wigan on Friday.

Bradley's dismissal came with his team leading 6-0. Tevita Vaikona had scored his eighth try of the season in the second minute, punishing a rare error from Warrington's Australian captain Danny Farrar and a missed tackle by their full-back Lee Penny.

Steve McNamara's conversion attempt hit the post but the loose forward extended Bradford's lead with an 11th-minute penalty after Nathan Graham, in for Lowes at hooker, had forced a fumble from Mike Wainwright with a bone-jarring tackle.

But by half-time Warrington were 18-10 ahead, largely thanks to the wonderful handling of Mark Forster who marked his 40th appearance for his only club with two brilliantly-finished tries.

Warrington's fourth victory in five matches keeps them two points behind fifth-placed St Helens in the battle for play-off places. Bradford, for their part, have won four matches, two more than in the whole of last season, and fall behind third-placed Halifax.

Injury is starting to take its toll of the champions with three players - Paul Anderson, Warren Jowitt and Danny Peacock - already out for the season and James Lowe a late withdrawal yesterday with a knee problem. They are likely to be without

ahead from his captain and grounded the ball while somehow staying in play. Jon Roper, again impressive at stand-off, converted both and then Matt Culland scored for Bradford, Warrington were in control.

They tightened their grip within three minutes of the restart. Wainwright dummying and striding between Sonny Nickle and Robbie Paul after Jeremy Donougher lost the ball in his own half.

Excellent defending from McCurrie then thwarted Bradford twice within three minutes as first he stopped a charge from Mike Forshaw and then held up Stuart Spruce inches from the line.

## Six-try Saints go marching on as the Eagles fall from grace

**ST HELENS'** decision to step the Great Britain scrum-half Bobbie Goulding on the sidelines appeared to be vindicated yesterday as they ran in six tries in a 34-12 victory over Castleford at Wheldon Road last night.

Wigan recorded their eighth win in nine league matches against Salford who slumped to their fourth straight defeat.

Lee Gilmour, who will win his England cap against Wales next month, and fellow winger Mark Bell each scored two tries in a game they controlled from the start when Sean Long touched down after 10 minutes. Apollo Perelli, Karle Hammond and Chris Joynt were Saints' other scorers. Castleford, who suffered their third defeat in four games, threatened briefly with a try by Jason Flowers, converted by Jamie Benn.

The Sheffield Eagles remain two points off the bottom after their latest defeat which has raised the London Broncos' play-off hopes. Broncos' captain Peter Gill scored two tries and Wes Cotton, Robbie Beasley and Darren Higgins added one apiece.

Yet for the kicking of Marcus Vassiliakopoulos he converted just one of seven attempts - the Chalk

**Cricket**  
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**The Guardian**  
INTERACTIVE



Football's governing body chooses its first new president for 24 years today to succeed the autocratic Havelange. Naturally it is a vote of two halves; the result may lie in the rigging. **John Duncan** examines the credentials of Sepp Blatter and Lennart Johansson

# Shoot-out for Fifa's fiefdom

**B**y three o'clock this afternoon there will be knives in backs, the atmosphere will be heavy with political fall-out and one disconsolate candidate will leave the grand Equinox Hall in Paris's 14th arrondissement knee-deep in the litter of promises he will never have the chance to break. Fifa presidential elections have always been like this.

The governing body of world football does not have them often — Fifa has had seven presidents since 1904 and two lasted only a year each — but when it does, they offer up the finest bureaucratic blood sport on the planet.

The electorate is small — only the heads of the 191 eligible member associations of Fifa vote — but the prize on offer is huge and this year bigger than ever: the right to walk into palaces and parliaments and know you are the most powerful man in the most important and richest sport in the world.

The wealth and popularity of modern world football are staggering, with almost enough noughts on the end to make an entire football team. The game internationally has an estimated annual turnover of \$150 billion.

The expected income from the 2002 and 2006 World Cups is \$2 billion. France 98 will make a profit of \$150

million. This popularity has shown no sign of slowing down. Twelve years ago 13.5 billion people watched the Mexico World Cup on television. Fifa's marketing arm, ISL, estimates this will almost triple in France 98. And, as the popularity goes up, so does the price of association. Companies such as Sony Canon and JVC have forked out \$13 million each to be lead sponsors this year.

Even the fringe players are paying through their corporate noses. Vauxhall have paid ITV \$3 million just to sponsor television coverage of the 1998 tournament. The Olympic Movement may claim the moral leadership of world sport but Fifa has run off with the credit card.

Today Dr Joao Havelange, who in his own ruthless, autocratic way made that happen, will step down after 24 years in charge.

Havelange took the helm from Sir Stanley Rous in 1974 after outmanoeuvring the patriarchal Englishman with a slick vote-buying campaign and a list of promises to smaller nations that he has largely kept: a bigger World Cup with more room for their teams, junior and development tournaments in Africa and Asia, and the promise of commercialism and its consequent trickling down of cash from Europe into their coffers.

He wooed Africa with anti-apartheid sloganeering

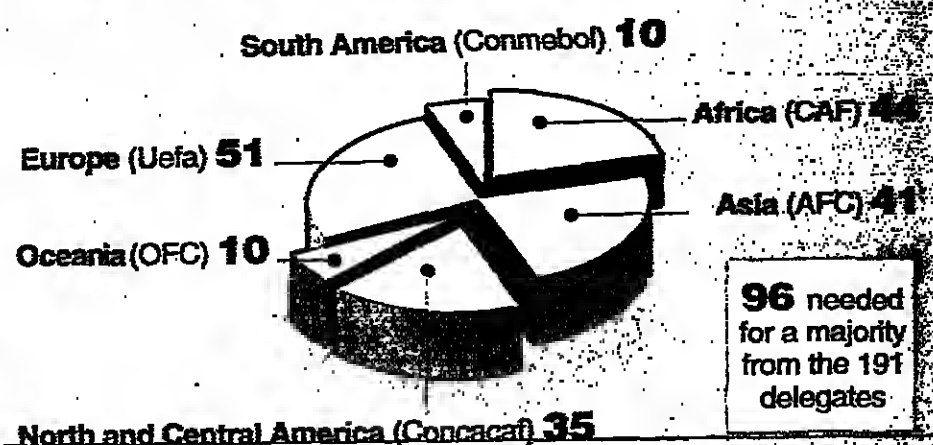
## Sepp Blatter

**Age 62**  
**Born** March 10, 1936  
**Birthplace** Vitznau, Switzerland  
**Appearance** Smart, energetic  
**Current job** General secretary of Fifa

**Route to the top**  
1964 Appointed general secretary of the Swiss Ice Hockey Federation.  
1970 Director of sports, training and public relations for Longines, involved in the organisation of the 1972 and 1976 Olympic Games.  
1975 Appointed Fifa's director of technical development programmes, putting president Joao Havelange's projects (under-21, under-17 world competitions) into motion.  
1981 Appointed Fifa general secretary.  
1990 Appointed Fifa chief executive officer.

**Football credentials**  
Amateur forward and player-coach of Vesp in 1964-65.  
**What his friends say**  
A capable, personable fellow, familiar with the intricacies of how Fifa works. His presence, is the "world politician" of the two candidates, speaking numerous languages.  
**What his enemies say**  
In Havelange's pockets, too tainted with the accusations of extravagance and undemocratic practice that have been levelled at his boss. And he likes to tinker with the rules too much, like his stupid plan to outlaw tackling.  
**Power base** Latin America, numerous federations who owe him and Havelange a favour.  
**Unofficial campaign slogan**  
"Don't you just hate the Germans?"  
**Superstar allies** George Wehr, Michel Platini.  
**Projected vote** 101

## Distribution of Fifa's voting members



## Lennart Johansson

**Age 66**  
**Born** November 5, 1929  
**Birthplace** Bromma, Sweden  
**Appearance** European trade union official  
**Current job** President of Uefa

**Route to the top**  
1962-80 Chairman of AIK Stockholm.  
1967-79 Board member, Swedish Football League.  
1979-84 Chairman, Swedish Football Federation.  
1984-91 Chairman, Swedish Football Association.  
1984-88 Member of Uefa's Euro 88 Committee.  
1988-90 Member of Uefa Executive Committee.  
1990- Uefa president.  
1990- Vice-president of Fifa.  
1990-96 Vice-chairman of the World Cup Organising Committee for France 98.

**Football credentials**  
He supports Arsenal.  
**What his friends say**  
He's a most amiable sort of chap, very interested in participation in the sport. He's Swedish and therefore more neutral than most when it comes to the big political battles. And he supports Arsenal.  
**What his enemies say**  
He is a German puppet, a placement by them to kick out Fifa's Latin influence, not at all his own man. He is bumbling, hasn't time to glow on the world stage, doesn't speak languages, lacks dynamism. And he supports Arsenal.  
**Power base** Europe, Africa (but losing it).  
**Unofficial campaign slogan**  
"Vorsprung durch Johansson."  
**Superstar allies**  
Pele, Bobby Charlton.  
**Projected vote** 90

**J**OHANSSON also lost the political battle with Blatter. The Uefa man tried to have him declare early but the Swiss refused because doing so would have put him under pressure to resign from Fifa. Johansson was furious. "I am running, I am not running, maybe I will run," the Swede barked. "This is a game that girls play with daisies: he loves me, he loves me not. What kind of style is that?"

The Europeans tried to force the issue at a special executive meeting but, when a vote looked likely to take place, Havelange stood up and walked out of the room, thereby closing the meeting.

The waiting game has paid off. Blatter has been able to declare at the last minute, having organised

## Their master's voice

1991  
"The Africans are making great progress and one day they will be champions of the world."

"Discipline gives me greatest pleasure. I was always that way when I played water polo."

"Indisputably the most disciplined team at this World Cup. They're the perfect team on the ground, was the England team."

"I am not prejudiced by anything. All I wish to do is to contribute to serve my family, my business, Fifa and sport. I am happy because football is well respected... Not in the world."

1986  
"As a player, Pele gets 10 out of 10. As a person, does he deserve anything? He does. He's a great person. I do not do anything for anyone."

"He [Blatter] speaks French, Spanish, Italian, German, English and Portuguese and writes in all those languages. He is a very capable man with all the qualities and has shown them for 23 years. He always arrives at seven in the morning and leaves at seven in the evening."

"If you count all the publicity, companies, television deals, works and everyone else who gains from football, we give employment to 450 million people in the world."

"I have achieved my mission. I am proud to say I am Brazilian."

"I am not prejudiced by anything. All I wish to do is to contribute to serve my family, my business, Fifa and sport. I am happy because football is well respected... Not in the world."

1986  
"As a player, Pele gets 10 out of 10. As a person, does he deserve anything? He does. He's a great person. I do not do anything for anyone."

**H**avelange is distaste for obvious everything he says and the implication of one plank of his manifesto — the immediate commissioning of an independent auditors' report of the financial dealings of Fifa and Havelange — is brutally obvious.

Johansson is the only man who has ever won out over Havelange — he got the Fifa executive to agree that Japan and South Korea should share the 2002 World Cup even though Havelange had personally promised it to Japan.

The battle between the pair, as expected, has not been pretty. Johansson declared his candidature early and immediately started lobbying hard, travelling the world and using his Uefa position to get in

among the voters. He made headway in the horse-trading for votes, promising each of Fifa's members \$1 million from every World Cup kitty, obviously of greatest attraction to the numerous poorer Fifa nations in Africa, who are likely to hold the balance of power today.

He was unanimously endorsed by Uefa at its congress in Dublin this year and the occasion could hardly have been more sickeningly laudatory if it had been organised for Brezhnev by the Kremlin.

The standing ovation was overlong and the gushing tributes were saccharine sweet.

Johansson appeared under a spotlight as My Way blared out of the PA system and a message of support from Pele brought tears to his eyes. Uefa, dominated by the Germans, was sick of Havelange and his pandering to minor football powers and it wanted its own man in charge.

This allowed no one to step out of line.

Johansson claimed the support of Europe, Africa, Asia and the Caribbean for a proposal he called Vision, which would see the World Cup and the presidency rotate every four years between four regions — Europe, Africa, the Americas and Asia — thus guaranteeing Africa a tournament every 16 years starting in 2006.

It was a clever move, especially given Havelange's wounded credibility in Africa after he visited Nigeria just as the regime was attracting world opprobrium for the hanging of Ken Saro-Wiwa. It looked as if, for the first time in two decades, someone other than Havelange had the African-made key to power.

But he lost it in an instant. Speaking — off the record to a Swedish journalist — about a visit to the African continent, he was quoted as saying: "When I got to South Africa the whole room was full of blackies and it's so fucking dark when they sit down altogether."

What's more, it's no fucking fun when they're angry." Johansson did not deny the remark but claimed the problem lay in the translation. The damage was done, however, even if it was not intentionally racist: it was politically inept, a far worse crime in the world of sports bureaucracy.

He has since hit other buffers. His campaign is regarded as lousy — the photos in his brochure look like out-of-focus holiday snaps — and by insiders, ill-organised and his personal appeal is limited.

He does not speak French, is regarded as thoroughly in the pocket of the Germans and his enjoyment of the occasional drink has been noted by his opponents.

which, say Blatter's critics, have allowed the president to run the organisation like a private fiefdom. Havelange's son-in-law is head of the Brazilian federation.

Fifa has not yet even decided exactly how the vote will be conducted. It is likely that in time-honoured tradition each country will be called by name and delegates will walk solemnly to the front of the hall and put their ballot paper in a box at the top table. The votes will then be counted and the game will have a new master. A month later the winner will stand at the Stade de France and present the trophy to the World Cup winners knowing that, whoever he hands the trophy to — the captain of the victorious team — the highest prize in world football is already in his own pocket.

## Way back when...

**Frank Keating** recalls the bunch of daffodils who won Glamorgan's first county championship in 1948



Pipe dream fulfilled... Willf Wooller in 1949  
PHOTOGRAPH BY HULTON GETTY

**F**IFTY years ago Glamorgan began to mount the charge which resulted in cricket's county championship leaving England for the first time. The present champions celebrate that notable half-century with an anniversary reunion of their predecessors on Wednesday next week at Cardiff's Sophia Gardens "although, sadly, there are only a handful left of us 1948 pioneers," says the 75-year-old Jim Pleass, mid-order bat, once swooping over fieldsman and founder of the county's former players' association.

The Welsh triumph remains one of the ancient championship's most resonant. The inspiringly autocratic captain Willf Wooller, not long before his death at 84 last year, chuckled: "It took poor old Jim Swanton of the Daily Telegraph all of two ruddy years to first believe and then accept that Glamorgan had won it."

There were other unbelievers nearer home,

added Wooller. While the Davies had taken heavy bets all round that county would go on and win the championship once they had headed it in early June, "his namesake Emrys, our opening bat, still flatly refused to believe we had actually clinched it [at Bournemouth at the end of August] until he had heard it spoken next morning in Welsh on BBC Wales."

As a schoolboy across the border I remember being caught up in the Welsh charge that summer. My particular favourite was Willie Jones, a stocky left-hander from North who in his winters played shining rugby at fly-half for Gloucester at Kingsholm. He died in 1996 at 79.

Those first two weeks of June, 1948, Jones had boldly battled Glamorgan into the championship lead with two double centuries: against Kent at Gravesend and Essex at Brentwood, where his 215 not out, alongside Emrys's 215 put on a record 313 for a

left-handers' third wicket. Wooller, who beat a rugby star of course. But at cricket Jones was scared of his captain and in Stephen Chalke's minor classic on the era, *Runs In The Memory*, the Glamorgan doyen Don Shepherd relates the extent of it.

"Seven summers Willie scores 1,000 runs a season but remains so anxious that he gets his wife to ring Willf to see if he's playing... Willf towers over him and Willie is afraid of making mistakes. There are even days when Willf threatens to send Willie home. 'Many's the time I wish I'd gone,' confides Willie... But back he comes and sometimes his wife comes with him 'to sort Willf out'."

Wooller, Clay, Cliff, Davies D, Davies E, Dyson, Hever, Jones, Muncer, Parkhouse, Pleass, Watkins: those were, to all intents, the glam Glam 12 of 1948 which still trips off the tongue. But who remembers Jim Eaglestone and Stan Trick? For grandchildren Wisden's

annual log of "Births and Deaths" proves a player has been a first-class cricketer stalwart. Neither is listed any longer but both played crucial parts in the 1948 triumph.

**D**own the years, when Pleass sent out his annual circular to Glamorgan's former players, he admits wondering, "Whatever happened to Jimmy?" Eaglestone had arrived from the Middlesex groundstaff at Lord's in 1948, been ever present in Glamorgan's championship run as a sound batsman and in a memorable fielding side, athletic and sure in the outfield. He then disappeared back to London a year later, never to be heard of again.

For this year's anniversary reunion Pleass enlisted the help of the county's librarian David Irving to try to track down Eaglestone. Dead end followed cul-de-sac and their old friend was "missing presumed dead" until one final try in Wisden Cricket

Monthly — a photograph and a headline Have You Seen This Man? — drew immediate response from John Spencer, secretary of Pinner CC.

Eaglestone was alive and well — and he would be 75 this July 24 — and Pleass contentedly posted off the party invitation to his old comrade.

In a terrific new hook Daffodil Days (Gomer Press: £16.99) Grahame Lloyd acclaims Glamorgan's 1997 title but dwells touchingly as well on the 1948 pioneers. He details the search for Eaglestone and quotes the long-lost player's delight at being "found."

"I was very proud for myself and Glamorgan," says the old Londoner whose fleeting "foreign" visit helped win a championship. "The next year, 1949, Glamorgan offered me a new contract but there wasn't the money about in cricket then, so I opened a confectionery and tobacconist's shop in Paddington and gave up the game completely."

Eaglestone retired to

Pinner with his wife Doris in 1984. "I'm really pleased to be tracked down after all these years," he says. "Rightly or wrongly? I didn't think Glamorgan would want to know about me after so long."

"Willf was a great bloke and skipper; we were all pals together. I remember being pushed all over the place in the outfield, mainly because I was a bit swift," says the old man.

Even more fleeting was Stan Trick's contribution in 1948. He played only in the five matches that Glamorgan played at Swansea. In each one he ensured the victory. The local boy knew just how to bowl his medium-fast left-arm spinners at slow-turning St Helen's. In those five games Trick bowled 331 superb overs for 37 wickets at 19 apiece.

His motor-busman boss was also his father-in-law-to-be. "If you want her, and want to work for me," he said sternly, "you'll only bowl for Glamorgan at Swansea, m'boy." And so he did, helping to bring home the title.



24 years  
vote of two  
lines the



After you, Joao... Havelange weighs the balance between the two candidates to succeed him as president of Fifa, Sepp Blatter, whom he favours, and Lennart Johansson

...voting member  
...10  
Africa (CAF) 4  
Asia (AFC) 4  
96 needed  
for a majority  
from the 191  
delegates

Johansson

Football credentials  
...what his friends say  
...what his enemies say  
...what his supporters say

# Game, set and crash for girl power

FAIR GAME

Julie Welch

surface which is fast and green and will turn yellow if not occasionally watered. In women's sport tennis players are the new Olga Korbut. At 24 and 25 respectively, Monica Seles and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario are practically crooks. Their unscheduled final in Paris on Saturday had a whiff of the downers' last stand.

My favourite headline of all time is from the Morning Star of June 20, 1982. It read: "Kitty Godfree Dies. Revised Wimbledon Draw." Given that Godfree skipped round a court well into her nineties and given also that women's tennis was drawing on a stagnant pool of talent just then, it would have been only mildly surprising to spot her name on the scoreboard at SW19.

Things have changed. Martina Navratilova was still drawing on a stagnant pool of talent just then, it would have been only mildly surprising to spot her name on the scoreboard at SW19.

Things have changed. Martina Navratilova was still drawing on a stagnant pool of talent just then, it would have been only mildly surprising to spot her name on the scoreboard at SW19.

whelmed by a fresh wave of would-be multi-millionaires. Kournikova was 17 only yesterday but the suspicion is that she is mainly there to give men a nice bottom to drool at. The way things are heading, future champions will not be old enough to wear a hat.

The reason for Graf's slide down the rankings is that she has hardly played. She is a living medical textbook, the embodiment of what happens when someone picks up a tennis racket at reception-class age and spends the next two decades whacking a tennis ball. A lecturer in medicine could have based three semesters' teaching on her back alone.

Some of the US tennis press referred to Graf as Fraulein Forehand. More appropriate would have been Steffi Screwed-Up Spine. It is out as if Graf had the wrong build for tennis. Like Virginia Wade before her she possessed the perfect physique, as light and sinewy as an 800 metres runner. This is not to say that nature's perennials are barred from high

achievement — Lindsay Davenport managed Olympic gold and her nickname on the circuit is Dimptruck — but being able to shift like Seh Coe is a huge advantage.

Not for long, though. The matches are tough, the surfaces implacable. Increasingly because of the highness of the hucks, they start younger, pound their skeletons harder and crack themselves earlier. Billie Jean King would not have amassed her record number of Wimbledon titles if she was playing now. She would have limped away at 19, with knees like rusting cheese-graters.

Hingis may last longer than most. Far from running being her forte, she relies on terrific anticipation. This has kept her out of trouble so far but, as befits a member of the My Little Pony set, the injury which deprived her of last year's French title was incurred falling off a horse.

Venus Williams's style owes more to the steamroller than Swan Lake. She can make a tennis ball travel at 100mph but already has problems with

her legs. Unlike King, future champions are unlikely to become icons. They will not be around long enough to insinuate themselves into our memory banks.

The fall of seeds is enjoyable out just because it warms the heart to see calamitous things happen to someone richer and younger than oneself. All sports need a turo-over of talent. If champions never got toppled tennis would be a gerontocracy like darts, where in some dimly lit night-club Eric Bristow is still contesting the final against John Lowe. This year's Wimbledon final would be Court v Duero, unless one of them got beaten by that little Evonne Goolagong in the semis.

However, it has now gone to the other extreme. A few Grand Slams, some cover shots for men's magazines and they will be gone before you can say "herniated disc". Still, they will have no problem paying the medical fees.

## Dunlop out on his own on the mountain of death

CENTRE STAGE

Pete Nichols

IT HAS been an unrelenting toll on the Manx mountain. Two years ago Mick Loft-house, Steve Tannock, Aaron Kennedy and Rob Holden were all killed at the races. Holden's Ducati team was disbanded after the rider died that sad Friday morning.

Colin Gable was a veteran of the TT races but knowing one's way round the 37.73-mile course confers no immunity. Gable, from Ravenstone in Leicestershire, died last year when his Honda 750 crashed in practice. Last Thursday it was Mike Casey's turn. The marine engineer, who lived at Patrick on the island, was killed and the grim tally of victims reached 171, from 91 years of Isle of Man racing.

Weaving through the carnage is Joey Dunlop. No, it does not really happen like that; it just feels like it. Dunlop is the rider who takes one's mind off the tragedies, allows one to concentrate on the triumphs. The 46-year-old Ulsterman is now out on his own among island racers. Last year he won his fourth successive lightweight title and his 22nd TT victory overall.

This year Dunlop is back for another tilt at the light weight crown. He is no more immune to crashes than anyone else and arrived at these races, for which practice began last week, as patched up as any. In a race last month,



Manx master... Dunlop, 22 titles to date

speed an art form. On the track circuits, though, there are few impediments. Anything which might cause a sliding bike to flip is removed. On the island circuit there is nothing but obstacles and road surfaces vary but that is not the trap. The circuit is bordered by stone walls, houses, lamp-posts, sheep fencing and sheer drops. In these races it pays to stay on the bike.

Six summers ago Carl Fogarty, twice world superbike champion, rode the circuit at an average of 123.61 mph, which remains the outright lap record. Even Fogarty now says he will not ride the island again, that it is too dangerous.

Dunlop does not know yet if his escapades will be all over after this year's event. "I'll see how I feel," he says, though he is rather too old to be coy. Nobody has come close to his domination. Mike Hailwood, who once won seven world track titles in a row (three at 250cc and four at 500cc) could manage only 14 wins on the island and he is the next best.

Dunlop may soon quit and there are 171 reasons why the race, too, may need an early retirement. Dave Cretney, the island's minister for tourism and a former racer himself, insists the event is not under threat: "In a world where there are fewer and fewer challenges, this is the ultimate in motorcycling. They come because they want the challenge. Each death is an individual tragedy but I don't think Mike [Casey] would want it to stop. More people die in a season in the Alps than have ever died here."

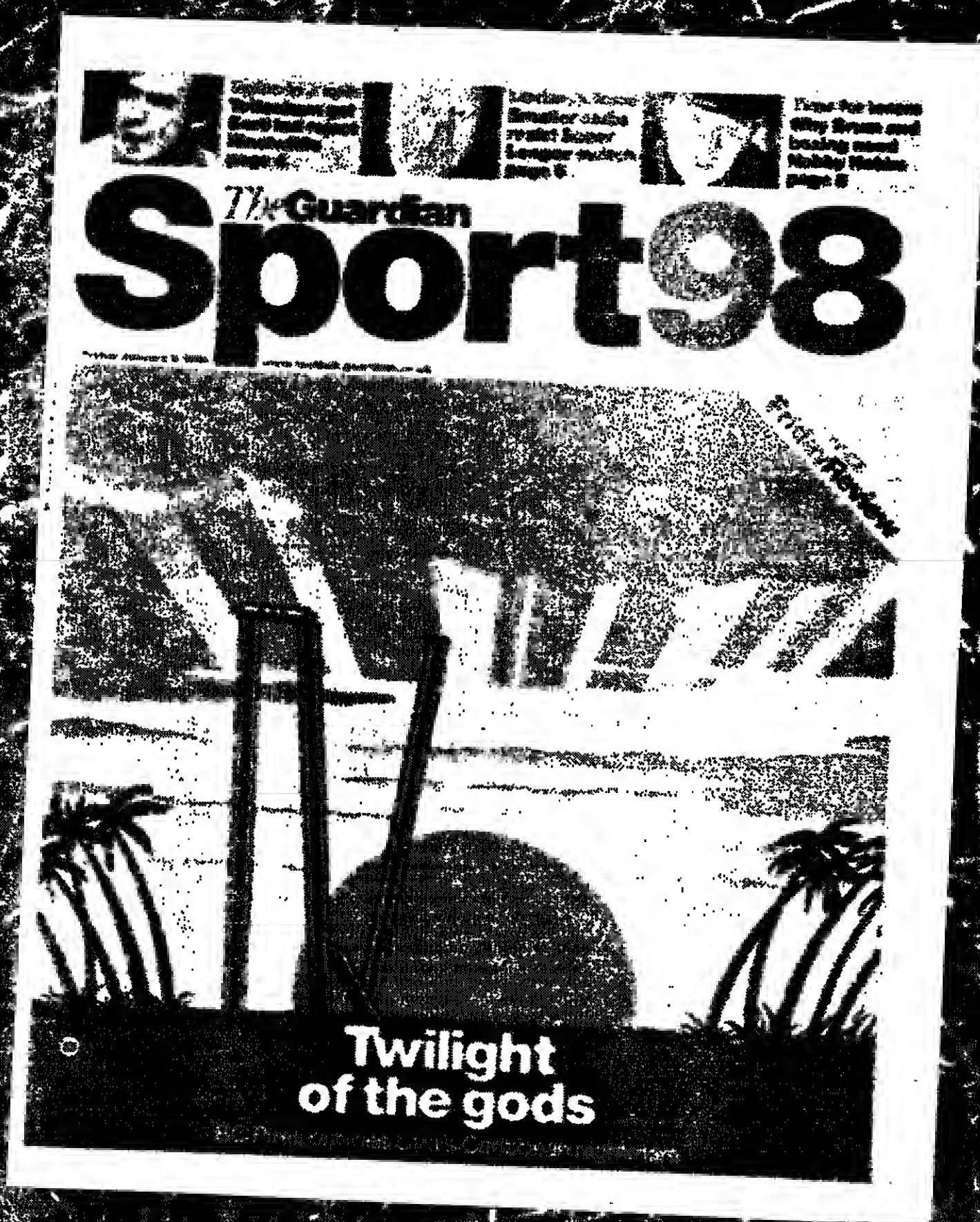
Casey, though, was 34. When so many are buried, and with such regularity, the question will not go away.

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# If it's in the game, it's in...



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Racing

# High-Rise shows a classic hand

Chris Hawkins reflects on a Derby which brought joy and despair in equal helpings

A GREAT finish, a sunny afternoon and a huge crowd put the Vodafone Epsom Derby firmly back on the map on Saturday. Worries that in its 219th year the race was beginning to show its age were banished by a display of speed and courage from two colts who epitomised all that is best in racing.

Nothing quite matches the thrill of two horses racing flat-out, head to head in a final furling battle and as High-Rise inched out City Honours it was a spine-tingling, emotion-charged experience.

But inevitably, or so it seems, there was a down side. King Of Kings, the 2,000 Guineas winner, was found to have injured a knee so badly after finishing last that he has had to be retired.

Aidan O'Brien, his trainer, explained: "He was X-rayed and it seems there is nothing that can be done so it's the end of his racing career."

Uncannily, this follows the pattern of the future that has dogged 2,000 Guineas winners in the Derby in recent years. Entrepreneur Dopped last season and was retired after just one more race, while Pennekamp, the 1996 Guineas winner, broke a bone in a hind leg in the Derby and

though her display was so poor that it must remain inconclusive.

Simon Crisford, racing manager to Godolphin, commented yesterday: "Obviously we're very disappointed and she was never travelling that well. We took a chance and it didn't work. I'm sure she'll step back in time now."

At least Godolphin had the satisfaction of seeing City Honours finish second.

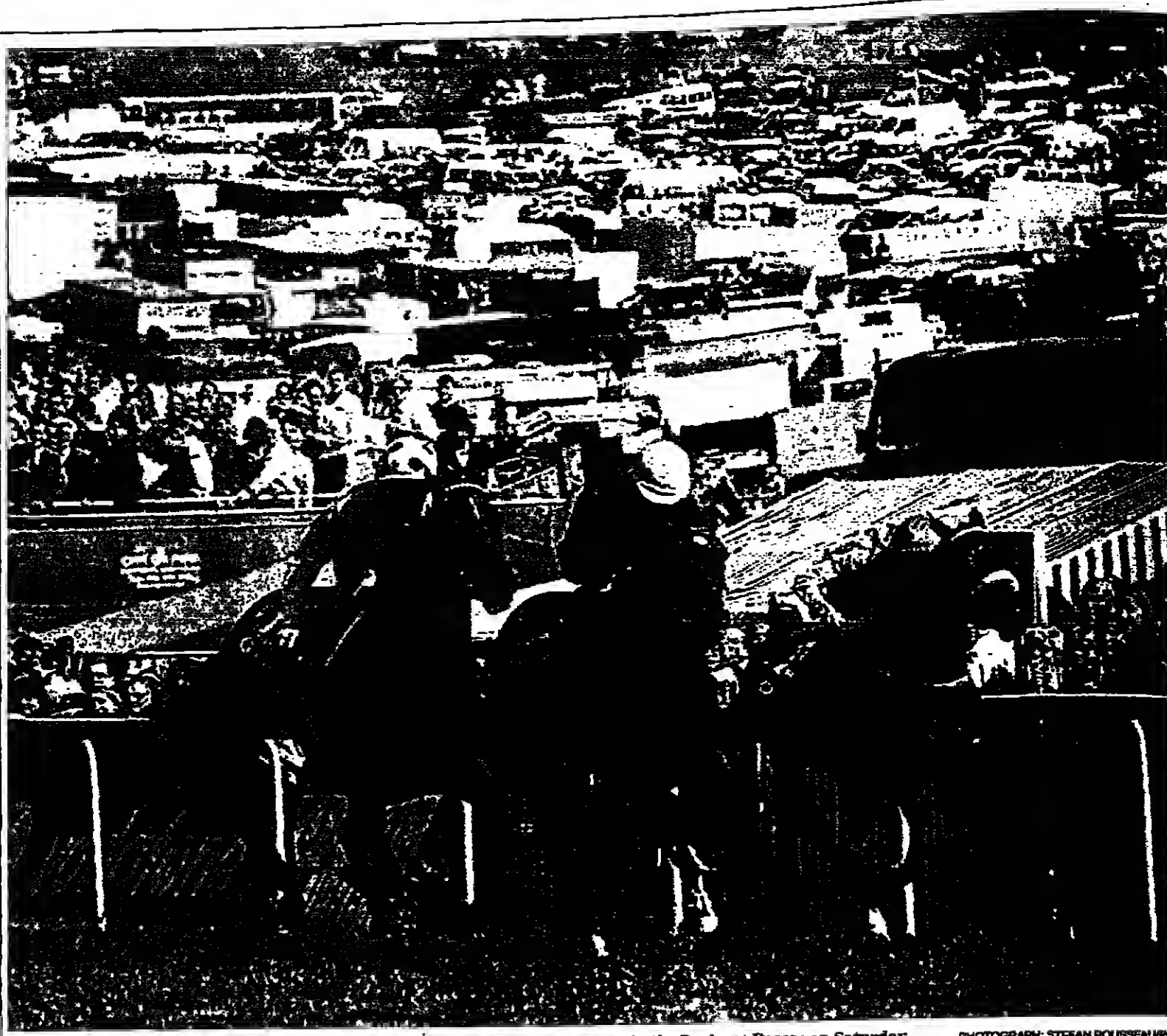
There was no lighter side, however, for O'Brien, whose three colts - Second Empire (8th), Saratoga Springs (10th) and King Of Kings (last) all ran badly.

King Of Kings had a valid excuse, but Second Empire was found wanting and perhaps his apparently poor run in that controversial Irish Classic was nothing more than a fair reflection of his ability.

In New York, Real Quiet failed by a nose to land the American Triple Crown when beaten by Victory Gallop in the final leg, the Belmont Stakes over a mile and a half.

Real Quiet, winner of the Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes, was caught on the line, meaning that Affirmed in 1978 remains the last colt to complete the Classic treble.

At Chantilly yesterday the Aga Khan's filly Zaita, ridden by Gerald Mosse, edged out Abbeville in a photo finish to win the Prix de Diane (French Oaks).



Final flourish... High-Rise (left) gets up in the last strides to pip City Honours in the Derby at Epsom on Saturday

PHOTOGRAPH: STEFAN ROUSSEAU

## Cumani triumphs over adversity

Chris Hawkins

FOR Luca Matteo Cumani, the urbane Italian trainer who made Newmarket his home 22 years ago, Saturday's Vodafone Derby victory of High-Rise was a triumph for talent and quiet perseverance. In the last few seasons Cumani's star has been in decline. Ten years ago he won the Derby with Kahyasi for the Aga Khan, but the latter's decision to quit British racing hit him hard. He lost 40 horses and more followed as the general recession saw the departure of some wealthy American owners.

Then perhaps the biggest blow of all: Sheikh Mohammed hit on the Godolphin idea and Cumani, despite training Barathia to win the Breeders Cup Mile in 1994, found himself down the pecking order.

"Yes, I went down a rung or two in the Sheikh Mohammed operation when Godolphin came in, but I never lost faith. I always thought I could still train a bit," said Cumani, revealing the self-denigrating side of his nature that he likes to play up.

Everyone knows, none more than Cumani, that he has one of the sharpest brains in racing, but remarks such as "I was a little slow getting the grey matter going" when asked whether he first thought High-Rise might be a Derby colt, are typical of him.

He has penetrating eyes and talks with a smile on his lips which suggests he knows a lot more than you, but is not letting on. His father, Sergio, was a top trainer in Italy and it was natural for the young Cumani to be associated with horses, although he trained to be a doctor for three years.

He gave up because: "I was too selfish and didn't have enough of the missionary about me" and became champion amateur rider in 1972.

Then he came to England as a assistant trainer to Henry Cecil, a period which coincided with Italian owner Carlo d'Alessio's association with the stable, resulting in successive 2,000 Guineas victories with Bolenski and Wollow, ridden by Frankie Dettori's father, Gianfranco.

Cumani set up on his own in 1976, quickly establishing a reputation for quality animals, and he lists the best horses he has trained as Kahyasi, Tolomeo, Commanche Rnn, Barathia, Markofdistinction, Only Royale and now High-Rise.

Summing up the last few years, he said: "For a while I was playing in the premier league with second division material - I'm just thankful I didn't get relegated."

### Windsor runners and riders tonight

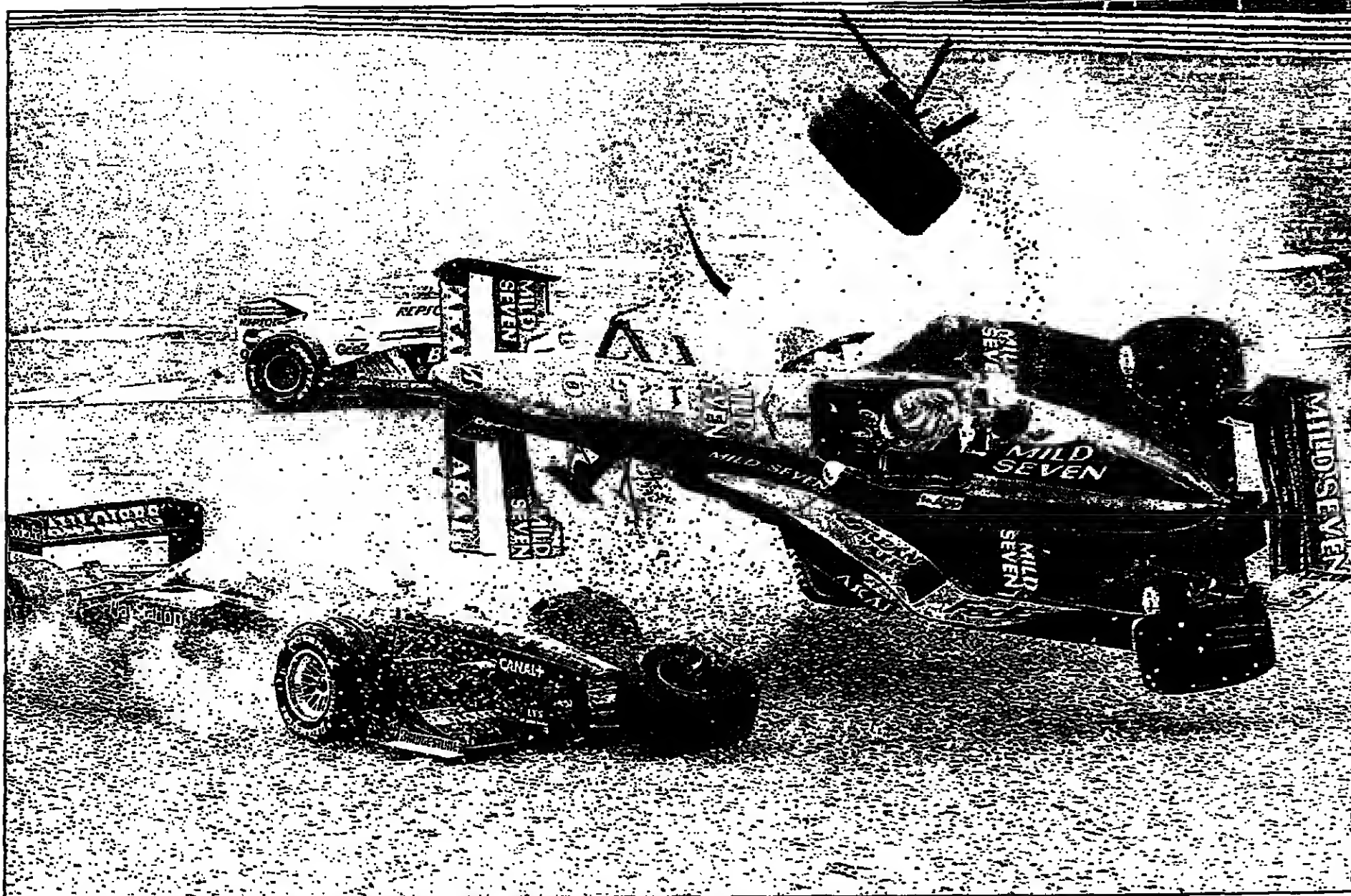
RON COX	TOP FORM
6.30 Brightstone	Brightstone
7.00 Precision Finish (nap)	Precision Finish
7.30 Capriccio	Capriccio
8.00 Capriccio	Capriccio
8.30 Capriccio	Capriccio

Eight-eight track of 150m with only right-hand turns occur in races up to 1m700m. Virtually straight 5f & 6f tracks. Going: Good to Firm. Drivers: High numbers favoured over 5f & 6f. Seven day winners: 2,30 Dotted, 3,00 Dotted, 4,00 Dotted, 5,00 Dotted, 6,00 Dotted, 7,00 Dotted, 8,00 Dotted, 9,00 Dotted, 10,00 Dotted, 11,00 Dotted, 12,00 Dotted, 13,00 Dotted, 14,00 Dotted, 15,00 Dotted, 16,00 Dotted, 17,00 Dotted, 18,00 Dotted, 19,00 Dotted, 20,00 Dotted, 21,00 Dotted, 22,00 Dotted, 23,00 Dotted, 24,00 Dotted, 25,00 Dotted, 26,00 Dotted, 27,00 Dotted, 28,00 Dotted, 29,00 Dotted, 30,00 Dotted, 31,00 Dotted, 32,00 Dotted, 33,00 Dotted, 34,00 Dotted, 35,00 Dotted, 36,00 Dotted, 37,00 Dotted, 38,00 Dotted, 39,00 Dotted, 40,00 Dotted, 41,00 Dotted, 42,00 Dotted, 43,00 Dotted, 44,00 Dotted, 45,00 Dotted, 46,00 Dotted, 47,00 Dotted, 48,00 Dotted, 49,00 Dotted, 50,00 Dotted, 51,00 Dotted, 52,00 Dotted, 53,00 Dotted, 54,00 Dotted, 55,00 Dotted, 56,00 Dotted, 57,00 Dotted, 58,00 Dotted, 59,00 Dotted, 60,00 Dotted, 61,00 Dotted, 62,00 Dotted, 63,00 Dotted, 64,00 Dotted, 65,00 Dotted, 66,00 Dotted, 67,00 Dotted, 68,00 Dotted, 69,00 Dotted, 70,00 Dotted, 71,00 Dotted, 72,00 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Wurz off... the Austrian driver's Benetton loses both front wheels as it tumbles in the crash which stopped the Canadian Grand Prix at the first bend

PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID TAYLOR

## Schumacher survives mayhem

Alan Henry in Montreal sees the German prevail as the McLarens drop out of an accident-torn race

**D**AVID Coulthard's hopes of closing the championship gap on his McLaren team-mate Mika Hakkinen took another dent in a dramatic Canadian Grand Prix here yesterday as both the Mercedes-engined cars retired with rare mechanical trouble, fast-tracking Michael Schumacher to his second victory of the season.

The Ferrari driver, who

beat Giancarlo Fisichella's Benetton after a spirited showing by the young Italian, now splits the McLaren drivers in the standings. The season's seventh race for much of its course was a destruction derby but, when the smoke cleared, Schumacher had closed to within 12 points of Hakkinen and five ahead of the Scot.

The race began on a nerve-jangling note after Ralf Schumacher stalled his Jordan-Honda from sixth place

on the grid. Cars dodged in all directions to avoid the stationary machine, which meant the second half of the grid was well scrambled as it funnelled into the tight left-hander after the pits.

Alexander Wurz's Benetton attempted to outbrake Jean Alesi's Sauber going into this turn but clipped the front of the Swiss car as Alesi moved over to make room for Heinz-Harald

Frentzen's Williams to take the racing line through.

In a flash Wurz found himself launched into a spectacular series of somersaults, his car happily landing on its wheels in the gravel trap on the outside of the corner. Alesi, his Sauber team-mate Johnny Herbert and the Prost of Jarno Trulli were also all involved and red flags were waved.

As less than two laps had been run, the grid lined up

again to compete over the full 68-lap distance. For the restart Alesi took the spare Sauber, Wurz the spare Benetton and Trulli the spare Prost. Herbert's Sauber was returned to the team garage, repaired and duly joined the race from the pit lane. But it was clearly not Alesi's day. At the restart Ralf Schumacher barged past him going into the first corner, spinning in the middle of the pack and again scattering cars in all directions.

This ended with Trulli's spare Prost perched over the back of Alesi's Sauber, while Hakkinen suddenly slowed before limping round to retire at the end of the first lap with gearbox trouble. Out came the safety car and the field formed a queue.

When the pack was finally unleashed at the end of lap five, Coulthard and Schumacher began pulling relentlessly away from the

### Full results from Montreal

1	Michael Schumacher (Germany)	Ferrari	1:28:07.3
2	Giancarlo Fisichella (Italy)	Benetton	1:28:22.0
3	Eddie Irvine (GB)	Ferrari	+66.653
4	Alexander Wurz (Austria)	Benetton	+1:01.513
5	Rubens Barrichello (Brazil)	Stewart	1 lap
6	Jan Magnussen (Denmark)	Stewart	1 lap

#### Also classified

7	Shinji Nakano	Japan	Minardi 2 laps
8	Nicolas Kiesa	Brazil	Tyrrell 3 laps
9	Pedro Diniz	Brazil	Arrows 3 laps
10	Jacques Villeneuve	Canada	Williams 5 laps
Fastest lap M Schumacher 1:19.379 (125.213mph)			

#### Not classified

11	Esteban Tuero	Argentina	Minardi 0 laps
12	Damon Hill	GB	Jordan 0 laps
13	Olivier Panis	France	Prost 0 laps
14	Heinz-Harald Frentzen	Germany	Williams 0 laps
15	David Coulthard	GB	McLaren 0 laps
16	Johnny Herbert	GB	Sauber 0 laps
17	Mika Salo	Finland	Arrows 0 laps
18	Mika Hakkinen	Finland	McLaren 0 laps
19	Ralf Schumacher	Germany	Jordan 0 laps
20	Jean Alesi	France	Sauber 0 laps
21	Jarno Trulli	Italy	Prost 0 laps
22	Tomashek Yaku	Japan	Tyrrell 0 laps

#### Championships: Drivers

After seven rounds	Points	Constructors	Points
1 Hakkinen	45	1 McLaren	52
2 M Schumacher	34	2 Ferrari	52
3 Coulthard	24	3 Benetton	28
4 Irvine	19	4 Williams	18
5 Fisichella	15	5 Stewart	8
6 Wurz	12	6 Sauber, Arrows	4
7 Frentzen, Villeneuve	8		
8 Barrichello	4		
9 Alesi, Salo	3		
10 Magnussen, Herbert	1		

#### Constructors

field. Fisichella holding third place ahead of the Williams of Jacques Villeneuve and Frentzen.

Coulthard showed real grit to stabilise his lead over the pursuing Ferrari but that vanished when the safety car came out for a second time between laps 14 and 17 after the Arrows driver Pedro Diniz spun off and then resumed, scattering clouds of earth and grass all round the circuit.

On lap 18 Coulthard suddenly slowed and the second McLaren trailed gently round to the pits to retire with an engine problem, allowing Schumacher through into the lead.

Amazingly, the safety car returned on lap 21 while de-

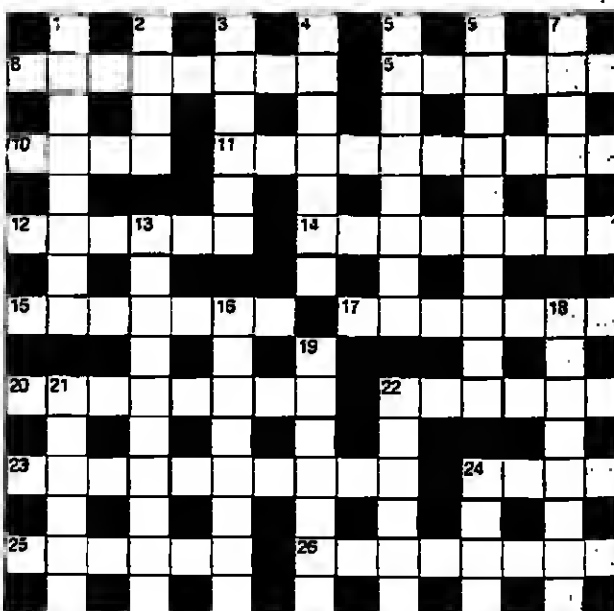
bris from Mika Salo's crashed Arrows was cleared up, and Schumacher used the lull to make his first refuelling stop.

What happened next was pure farce, or worse, as Schumacher emerged to find Frentzen's Williams drawing level on the outside racing line. The Ferrari driver moved out and pushed Frentzen off, an astonishing display of reckless driving.

This left Fisichella's Benetton leading from Villeneuve who lunged across the gravel trap which had claimed Frentzen. He managed to get back on the track only to be hit from behind by Esteban Tuero's Minardi.

### Guardian Crossword No 21,295

Set by Rufus



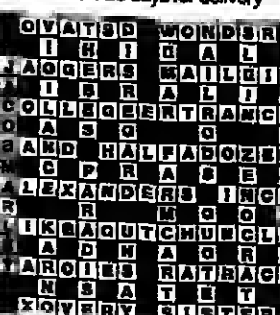
#### Across

- 8 General resemblance to Humpty Dumpty? (3-5)
- 9 He cometh in play or cinema production (6)
- 10 Allowing admission to ring enclosure (4)
- 11 Lacking money for cake (10)
- 12 It is hard-skinned and unfeeling, we hear (6)
- 14 Fool's speech in production of Lear (6)
- 15 Studs' list put on board (7)
- 17 New rise to be paid now? Remains to be seen (7)
- 20 It secures protection around the neck when carp's fin is damaged (5-3)
- 22 Quiet during day without a lot of noise (6)
- 23 Pedestrian crossing (10)
- 24 Crack shot (4)
- 25 Rum too embellished with gilt decoration (6)
- 26 Lawyers reason it out (6)

#### Down

- 1 One always remembers the peral settlement (6)
- 2 Club clique, we are told (4)
- 3 Bags of money (6)

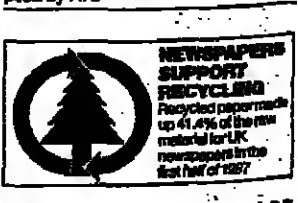
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- 4 Meets Sid and Joan when out (7)
- 5 It's put out in the dance interval (6)
- 6 Desire nice sort of divorce (6,4)
- 7 Bill is to raise and set sail for French port (6)
- 13 Alibi tenor used to get release (10)
- 16 Store up memoir in novel form (6)
- 18 Agitated prude and the kind of statue that agitates him (6)
- 19 Annoyed when out of pain-killer (7)
- 21 So rich a blend of voices (6)
- 22 Ways to get round little children's demands (6)
- 24 Father is up and about (4)

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